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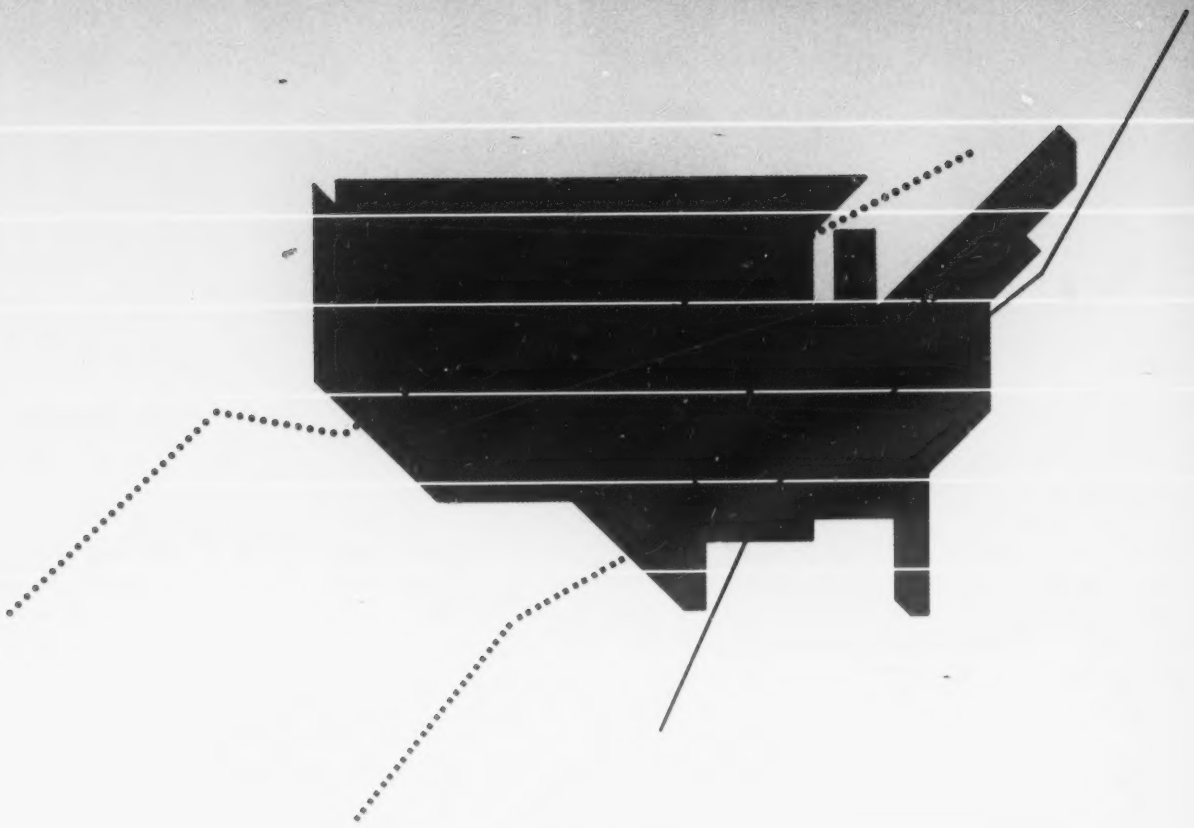
Socioeconomic Characteristics of Medical Practice 1990/1991



Contains results from the
Socioeconomic Monitoring System
1990 Spring Survey

AMA
AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

AMA Center for
Health Policy Research

Socioeconomic Characteristics of Medical Practice 1990/1991

Edited by
Martin L. Gonzalez

The information contained in this volume is from the AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System. The AMA Center for Health Policy Research directs the Socioeconomic Monitoring System in cooperation with the AMA Division of Survey and Data Resources.

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Foreword

The health care environment, especially as it relates to physicians, underwent major changes in the last decade. Increases in professional liability costs, rising physician supply, innovations in managed care, and efforts to control health care costs all had an impact on physician practice patterns. The government's efforts to control federal health expenditures brought about several Medicare initiatives, including a fee freeze, the Participation Program, Maximum Actual Allowable Charges, and "over-valued" procedure payment cuts. These factors also had an influence on physician practice patterns.

The Center for Health Policy Research has attempted to follow the impact of these changes by tracking key indicators of physician practice over time. The results of these efforts have been made available to the public in *Socioeconomic Characteristics of Medical Practice.*

Publication of this edition of *Socioeconomic Characteristics of Medical Practice* was delayed to allow for inclusion of results from the most recent Socioeconomic Monitoring System (SMS) survey. This edition highlights information from both the 1989 and 1990 SMS core surveys.

This year's edition also contains four new articles; the articles examine medical professional liability, physician income trends, physician practice expenses, and physicians' experiences with utilization review. The articles are followed by detailed tabulations of statistics on a broad range of physicians' practice characteristics, including income, expenses, fees, and a number of specific practice activities. In addition, trend information is provided so that the reader can examine how these characteristics have changed over time.

The introduction will assist readers in interpreting the book's information. It provides definitions for the statistical terms used and gives examples of how best to utilize the information presented in the tables. Users are encouraged to avail themselves of the information in the introduction and the appendices when interpreting the reported findings.

A program of the magnitude of the Socioeconomic Monitoring System requires major commitment and substantial effort from many individuals. I would like to express my gratitude to all who have contributed to SMS and this edition of *Socioeconomic Characteristics of Medical Practice.* Special thanks are due James W. Moser, Ph.D., director of the Office of Socioeconomic Research Information, who had major responsibility for oversight of this publication, and Norbert W. Budde, Ph.D., director of the Division of Survey and Data Resources, whose division has cooperated with the Center for Health Policy Research in many of the activities relating to SMS.

James F. Rodgers, Ph.D
Director
Center for Health Policy Research

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Introduction: How to Use Socioeconomic Characteristics of Medical Practice

Socioeconomic Characteristics of Medical Practice is an annual volume with studies and statistics based on information collected by the AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System (SMS). This volume maintains the tradition of the AMA, established in the past by the series *Profile of Medical Practice*, as a primary source of baseline data on socioeconomic aspects of medicine.

This volume is primarily devoted to providing detailed information on medical practice characteristics in 1989 and 1990 based on data collected by SMS surveys. However, selected trends are shown for characteristics for which similar data were collected in the past on earlier SMS surveys.

The information in this volume is intended for use by a variety of individuals who come into contact with medical practice issues from different perspectives. Physicians might use this information in assessing the likely impact of such practice changes as relocating or joining a group practice on their earnings, patient volume, and practice costs. Medical practice consultants may use this information to improve their ability to assess a client's performance and suggest areas for improvement. Hospital administrators may find the volume useful in determining appropriate compensation levels and hours for their medical staff.

Definition of Statistics

A statistic is simply a summary measure based on survey results to describe an attribute of the distribution of a characteristic across a population; in this instance a population of physicians. This volume provides a mean and standard error for each characteristic presented in the tables. Median net income and expense figures are also presented, as are figures for net income at the 25th and 75th percentiles.

Although the mean and median are more commonly employed statistics, the information on the 25th and 75th percentiles of each characteristic is included to emphasize how characteristics vary across groups within the physician population. In some instances, the information on the 25th and 75th percentiles might be more typical of the experience of subgroups of physicians than either the mean or median.

It must be kept in mind that the statistics presented are only estimates of population characteristics derived from surveying a sample of physicians. This may cause characteristics of the full physician population to differ from information obtained from SMS survey results. For this reason, the results include measures that should be considered carefully in judging what degree of confidence to attribute to any inferences drawn from the SMS results.

This is especially true of the within-specialty breakdowns by census division (e.g., net income for surgeons in the New England Census Division), which appear in tables that present current year information only. These figures are often calculated with a small number of observations, although figures calculated with less than 20 observations are not printed. Small sample sizes often cause the figures to fluctuate from year to year—more from sampling error than from actual changes in the characteristic. Hence, the user should be cautious when extrapolating trends from this information. The standard error of the mean, which is defined

below, should be used to determine if year-to-year changes in these figures are statistically significant. The statistics presented for each characteristic and a brief discussion of how each may be used follows.

Mean (or Average)

The sample mean is an estimate of the average value of a characteristic for a given population. The mean is often referred to as a measure of "central tendency" for a characteristic because it tends to be located in the middle of the distribution of all possible values for the characteristic. However, it may neither be the most common nor a very typical value. For example, for many physician characteristics, a large share of physicians are concentrated in a range of lower possible values for the characteristic while a small share of physicians have extremely high values. An example of this type of characteristic is physician net income after expenses before taxes. For such characteristics, the mean will exceed the most common value and the values representative of the experience of typical physicians. In these instances, the median (as discussed below) may be a more appropriate measure to use for making some types of inferences.

If information were available on a characteristic from the entire population of physicians in a group, the mean would be computed as the sum of the values of the characteristic across the group divided by the number in that group. This approach would also be followed using sample information to obtain an estimate of the mean if the sample were perfectly representative of the entire group. However, an examination of SMS survey results indicates that, although the initial samples are representative of the underlying physician population, some physician groups are underrepresented and others overrepresented among those physicians who complete the survey. To alleviate the biases that would arise from this result, the estimates of the mean reported in this volume are weighted averages of survey responses. The weights give greater importance to information reported by groups of physicians who are underrepresented in the final survey sample in the calculation of the mean. The "weighted" mean provides a more accurate reflection of the population mean. A further discussion of the weighting procedure and computation methods appears in Appendix B.

Standard Error of the Mean

The standard error is used in assessing the reliability of the estimate of the mean based on sample information in drawing conclusions about the mean of a characteristic for the underlying population. Larger standard errors indicate that the sample mean is subject to greater possible error as a representation of the mean for the entire population.

Two factors directly affect the standard error. First, the standard error diminishes as the number of respondents increases. Second, the standard error will tend to be greater for characteristics with greater dispersion in the values in the population. This is because greater dispersion increases the chance that a single unusual value will be reflected in the sample information (sometimes called an "outlier"), which will have inordinate influence in the calculation of the mean. However, as the overall sample increases, the influence of any single response will diminish, so that outlier problems that may introduce error into the estimates of the means will diminish.

A common use of standard error estimates is in the construction of confidence intervals. Confidence intervals are used for making statements about the probability with which the mean for the population of a physician group falls within certain bounds. For a 95% confidence interval, the bounds are given by the mean estimate plus 1.96 times the standard error and the mean estimate minus 1.96 times the standard error. The mean for the population will fall within these bounds with a probability of 95%. For a 90% confidence interval, the bounds are given by the mean estimate plus and minus 1.64 times the standard error.

For example, the sample mean number of office visits per week per physician in 1990 was 79.7 and the standard error was approximately 1.1. This indicates that there was a 90% probability that the population mean was between 77.9 and 81.5 and a 95% probability that the population mean was between 77.5 and 81.9.

25th Percentile

The 25th percentile is the value of the characteristic larger than that experienced by 25% of a specified group and exceeded by the remaining three-fourths of that group.

Median (or 50th Percentile)

The 50th percentile is the value of the characteristic larger than that experienced by half of a group, but smaller or equal to that experienced by the other half. This is a measure of central tendency often used as an alternative to the mean because it provides a better representation of the typical experience of individuals in the population group. It is also less subject to the influence of outliers than the mean.

75th Percentile

This is the value of the characteristic larger than that occurring for 75% of the physician group, but equal to or exceeding that for the other 25%.

A series of appendices relating to the methodology of the SMS surveys, the SMS questionnaire, and definitions of variables reported in the tables are included at the end of the book. These appendices are designed to answer most questions about how information included in this volume is generated. We urge readers to avail themselves of this information in considering the results published elsewhere in the volume.

Studies on the Socioeconomic Environment of Medicine

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By David W. Emmons and Anita J. Chawla

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By Kurt D. Gillis and Richard J. Willke

Physician Perceptions of the Intrusiveness of Utilization Review

By David W. Emmons and Anita J. Chawla

Most individuals enrolled in group health insurance plans now participate in a plan with at least some utilization review requirements.[1] The Medicare population also faces utilization review. Primarily a cost containment mechanism mostly used in connection with inpatient care, utilization review includes prospective, concurrent, and retrospective review activities and is conducted by a variety of third parties. Insurance companies or carriers and independent utilization review firms review utilization by the privately insured population. Peer Review Organizations (PROs) conduct utilization reviews on the Medicare population.

This study uses data from the AMA's 1990 Socioeconomic Monitoring System (SMS) core survey to examine the degree to which utilization review intrudes into physicians' medical practices. To determine the extent to which physicians found utilization review to be intrusive, the 4,022 physicians responding to the 1990 SMS core survey were asked to indicate which factor from the following list most interferes with their clinical decision making:

- professional liability;
- utilization review;
- capitation and fee schedules;
- practice guidelines; and
- prevailing practice style in the community.

The five items were read to the physicians surveyed in varying order to ensure that results derived from the question were not influenced by the order in which the list was read. In recording the physicians' responses, the interviewers also recorded "other" for a response other than one from the list. Moreover, the interviewers captured "none mentioned," "don't know," and refusals to answer the question. The response rate for the question exceeded 92%.

Physicians' Perceptions of the Intrusiveness of Utilization Review

As shown in Table 1, 20.6% of all physicians responding to the question indicated utilization review as the factor that most interfered with their clinical decision making. However, a higher percentage of physicians indicated professional liability and "none mentioned". It is important to recall that the latter was distinct from both the catch-all "other" category and from the "don't know" category.

The differences in services provided across specialties makes specialty an obvious factor to control for in looking at physicians' perceptions and experiences with utilization review. As Table 1 shows, internal medicine physicians were most likely to indicate that utilization review was the most intrusive factor (29.9%), while pathologists (5.3%), radiologists (8.4%), and anesthesiologists (9.6%) were least likely to do so. Internal medicine was the only specialty for which utilization review was ranked as the most intrusive factor by a plurality of respondents. Professional liability ranked second among factors mentioned by internists. Psychiatrists indicated utilization review was the second most intrusive factor, but almost 28% of the psychiatrists indicated that none of the factors indicated were particularly intrusive.

Perceptions of the Intrusiveness of Utilization Review (UR) by Form of Review

The 20.6% of physician respondents who had indicated that utilization review, in general, was the

The authors are, respectively, Director of Policy Development Studies and Research Economist in the AMA Center for Health Policy Research.

Table 1. **Factors that Interfere Most with Clinical Decision Making**

	Professional Liability	None Mentioned	Utilization Review	Capitation and Fee Schedules	Practice Guidelines Style in Community	Prevailing Practice	Other
	Percentage of Physicians						
All Physicians	30.6%	21.6%	20.6%	12.3%	5.8%	5.6%	3.6%
Specialty							
General/family practice	32.0	17.4	24.7	12.4	5.6	4.3	3.6
Internal medicine	23.9	18.0	29.9	13.4	6.6	4.4	3.8
Surgery	32.9	19.5	23.7	10.0	8.0	2.7	3.2
Pediatrics	32.5	24.7	13.3	16.0	4.2	6.1	3.2
Obstetrics/gynecology	37.5	21.0	14.2	11.5	4.2	8.3	3.4
Radiology	34.0	28.2	8.4	11.9	4.2	10.1	3.1
Psychiatry	15.9	27.8	25.7	17.1	2.3	5.3	5.9
Anesthesiology	32.6	32.6	9.0	8.8	7.3	7.7	2.0
Pathology	22.1	36.9	5.3	12.3	2.4	11.7	9.3
Other	41.8	19.5	11.0	11.3	5.1	9.1	2.2

Source: See text of article.

factor that most interfered with their clinical decision making were subsequently asked to indicate which form of review was most intrusive. In addition, they were asked which form of utilization review was most time-consuming.

As reported in Table 2, a plurality of the physicians who indicated utilization review as the factor that most interfered with clinical decision making cited preadmission certification as the most intrusive form of review (39.2%). As with the initial question, "don't know" and "none mentioned" responses were captured. Retrospective review (24.6%) and concurrent review (22.0%) were the next most frequently cited intrusions. The finding that preadmission review most interferes with physicians' clinical decision making holds for all of the specialties reported except psychiatry. Fifty-eight percent of psychiatrists cited concurrent review as being most intrusive.

The overall pattern of responses to this question, however, differed in a statistically significant fashion across specialties. Surgeons (63.5%) were far more likely to cite preadmission as being a problem. Obstetricians/gynecologists had the most diffuse set of responses with 13.5% citing mandatory second surgical opinion and 11.2% citing high cost case management.

Table 3 reports findings on the most time-consuming form of review, based on a second follow-up question asked of those physicians who had cited utilization review as the factor that most interfered with their clinical decision making. Again, "none mentioned" and "don't know" responses were captured separately. To a large extent, the findings mirror those on the most intrusive form of review presented in Table 2. Preadmission review (43.4%) was most often cited as being the most time-consuming. Retrospective review (23.6%) and concurrent review (18.0%) were the next most frequently cited measures. In addition, the pattern of responses differed by specialty.

Noteworthy differences between Tables 2 and 3 do exist, however. Although only 43% of obstetricians/gynecologists felt preadmission certification was the most intrusive form of review, more than 68% indicated it was the most time-consuming. Pediatricians showed a similar difference between figures in the two tables, from 32.3% to 56.5%. Other interesting differences can be observed in the pattern of responses among radiologists, anesthesiologists, and pathologists.

It should be noted again that these data reflect the perception of those physicians who reported utilization review as the one factor most intrusive into

Table 2. **Form of Utilization Review that Interferes Most with Clinical Decision Making**[a]

	Preadmission or Preprocedure Certification	Retrospective Review Surgical Opinion	Concurrent Review	High Cost Case	None Mentioned	Mandatory Second Management
	Percentage of Physicians					
All Physicians	39.2%	24.6%	22.0%	6.5%	5.9%	1.7%
Specialty						
General/family practice	35.1	34.5	18.4	7.4	4.1	0.5
Internal medicine	30.8	31.2	25.3	5.4	6.2	1.2
Surgery	63.5	14.5	10.9	3.5	4.6	3.0
Pediatrics	32.3	21.9	11.5	8.7	25.6	0.0
Obstetrics/gynecology	43.0	11.5	18.8	11.2	2.0	13.5
Radiology	32.3	27.0	18.5	13.0	9.2	0.0
Psychiatry	11.7	17.8	57.9	8.2	4.3	0.0
Anesthesiology	46.1	25.2	16.4	9.2	3.2	0.0
Pathology	30.0	30.0	0.0	22.7	17.4	0.0
Other	45.4	18.9	22.0	9.2	4.5	0.0

Source: See text of the article.
a. Sample limited to physicians indicating utilization review as the factor that most interferes with their clinical decision making.

Table 3. **Most Time-Consuming Form of Utilization Review**[a]

	Preadmission or Preprocedure Certification	Retrospective Review	Concurrent Review	None Mentioned	High Cost Case Management	Mandatory Second Surgical Opinion
	Percentage of Physicians					
All Physicians	43.4%	23.6%	18.0%	8.5%	4.0%	2.4%
Specialty						
General/family practice	39.7	34.3	15.4	5.9	3.3	1.4
Internal medicine	34.3	34.2	18.0	6.4	5.1	2.0
Surgery	65.0	11.9	7.5	7.3	2.7	5.7
Pediatrics	56.5	7.2	14.6	19.1	2.6	0.0
Obstetrics/gynecology	68.2	6.4	16.8	2.9	0.0	5.7
Radiology	25.2	43.9	22.8	4.8	3.4	0.0
Psychiatry	13.9	10.6	59.1	13.1	3.3	0.0
Anesthesiology	35.3	14.8	4.2	41.1	4.6	0.0
Pathology	0.0	0.0	42.8	24.8	32.4	0.0
Other	45.5	24.4	11.6	8.2	10.3	0.0

Source: See text of the article.
a. Sample limited to physicians indicating utilization review as the factor that most interferes with their clinical decision making.

their clinical decision making. As such these data have a different interpretation from the data in the remaining two tables which are representative of the physician population at large.

Table 4. **Utilization Review (UR) Burdens**[a]

	Hours Physicians Spent Dealing with UR	Hours Nonphysician Staff Spent Dealing With UR	Number of UR Organizations With Which Physician or Staff Had Contact
	(Mean)	(Mean)	(Mean)
All Physicians	2.1	5.4	3.7
Specialty			
General/family practice	2.1	4.4	3.2
Internal medicine	1.8	4.0	3.3
Surgery	2.3	7.2	5.2
Pediatrics	1.7	5.4	3.8
Obstetrics/gynecology	2.3	8.1	5.8
Radiology	1.7	6.2	1.7
Psychiatry	3.2	4.7	3.6
Anesthesiology	1.8	3.6	1.4
Pathology	3.2	7.4	1.7
Other	1.7	4.9	2.7

Source: See text of the article.
a. The data reflect physicians' experiences in their most recent complete week of practice.

The Burden of Utilization Review

A randomly selected subsample (of the entire survey sample) of 2,000 physicians was asked a series of questions relating to the burden of utilization review (the number of hours they or their staff spent on UR and the number of UR organizations they worked with). Table 4 summarizes the findings of three questions intended to capture the burden of utilization review. The data reflect physicians' experiences during their most recent complete week of practice. On average, physicians spent 2.1 hours total dealing with utilization review. The range of mean physician time spent dealing with utilization review across specialties was small, from 1.7 to 3.2 hours, but varied in a statistically significant manner. The same is true of staff time spent dealing with utilization review, which averaged 5.4 hours. Staff time ranged from a low of 3.6 hours among the staff of anesthesiologists to a high of 8.1 hours among the staff of obstetricians/gynecologists.

A different measure of burden reported in Table 4 is "mean number of utilization review organizations dealt with." This measure was intended to serve as a proxy for some of the complexities of the utilization process that arise from having to meet different review protocols and requirements. Anecdotal evidence suggests that the number of organizations with which physicians have contact is high. Nevertheless, the SMS survey data indicate that physicians or their staff work with an average of 3.7 organizations per week.

Although the reasons for specialty differences are not entirely evident, they can be observed in Table 4. Anesthesiologists (1.4), radiologists (1.7) and pathologists (1.7) report the lowest average number of contacts, while obstetrician/gynecologists (5.8) reported the highest average number.

Interpreting these data is fairly difficult. Although the average number of contacts may not seem particularly high, it must also be remembered that the data reflect physicians' experiences in their most recent week of practice. The average number of organizations dealt with over the course of a year could provide a very different sense of the problem that physicians face.

Table 5. **Prior Authorization (PA) Experience**[a]

	Physicians With at Least One Case of Prior Authorization Review	Number of Prior Authorization Cases for Physicians With at Least One Case of PA Review	Number of Prior Authorization Denials for Physicians With at Least One Case of PA Review
	(Percent)	(Mean)	(Mean)
All Physicians	48.3%	5.2	0.2
Specialty			
General/family practice	41.1	4.8	0.2
Internal medicine	39.2	4.3	0.1
Surgery	72.7	5.4	0.1
Pediatrics	35.1	4.9	0.2
Obstetrics/gynecology	66.3	6.2	0.2
Radiology	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Psychiatry	40.5	3.5	0.3
Anesthesiology	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Pathology	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Other	28.1	8.0	0.6

Source: See text of the article.
a. The data reflect physicians' experiences in their most recent complete week of practice.
N.A. = not available.

Physician Experience with Prior Authorization Review

All physicians, except for radiologists, anesthesiologists, and pathologists, were asked a series of questions on their experiences with prior authoriaztion. Physician experience with prior authorization review (found to be the most time consuming and intrusive form of review) are detailed in Table 5. Nearly half the physicians surveyed (48.3%) indicated they had experienced prior authorization review during their most recent complete week of practice. Statistically significant differences can again be seen across the specialties examined. Nearly three-fourths of surgeons and more than 66% of obstetrician/gynecologists reported having had prior authorization review cases in their most recent complete week of practice. In contrast, only 28% of physicians in other specialties reported having had prior authorization review cases.

Physicians who reported having had at least one case of prior authorization review were asked how many cases they had had and how many denials they had received. These data are given in the last two columns of Table 5. The physicians surveyed indicated an average number of 5.2 prior authorization cases and an average of 0.2 denials. Physicians in other specialties reported both the highest average number of cases (8.0) and the highest average number of denials. The mean number of denials in the most recent week of practice among the remaining specialties were fairly similar to one another, ranging from 0.1 to 0.3.

Summary and Conclusions

The data examined here indicate that utilization review is currently not the primary intrusion into physicians' clinical decision making. Indeed, the proportion of physicians citing professional liability as the most intrusive factor was 50% greater than the proportion citing utilization review. Nonetheless, the data suggest that more than half of all physicians must deal with some form of utilization review on a regular basis. They also reveal that prior authorization is the most onerous form of utilization review both in terms of time and in terms of its intrusiveness.

The SMS data suggest that the actual number of denials from utilization review is fairly small. (The mean number of cases with a final determination of denial may be smaller than the number reported since some denials may have been reversed on appeal.) This fact raises questions concerning the net benefits of the review process to society at large.[2] One question unanswered by the data is the extent to which patient care is jeopardized by some of the various types of review.

Endnotes

1. Jon Gabel et al. (1990).

2. A variety of studies have looked at the cost effectiveness of utilization review from the perspective of insurers. See, e.g., Custer (1989), Wickizer, et al. (1990), and the references therein. No study to date, however, has addressed the issue of the net benefits of utilization review to society.

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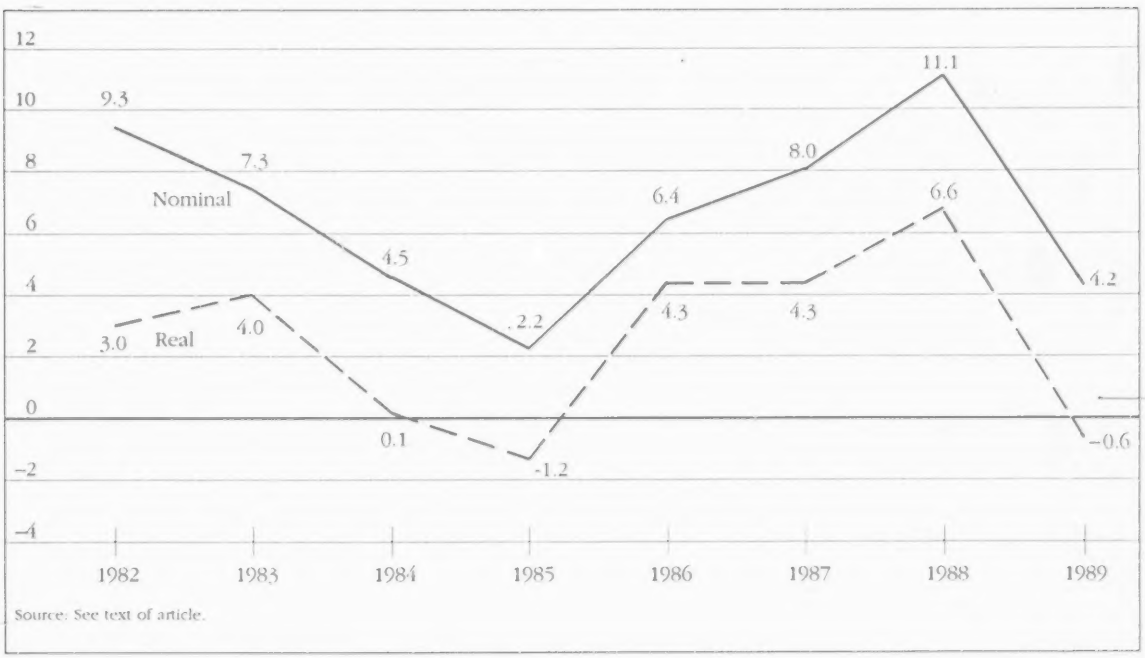
Physician Earnings 1981-1989

by Martin L. Gonzalez

Figure 1. **Year-to-Year Percent Change in Median Physician Net Income after Expenses before Taxes, 1981-1989.**



Source: See text of article.

Several changes occurred in the medical practice environment during the 1980s. Alternative delivery systems such as health maintenance organizations (HMOs) and preferred provider organizations (PPOs) became more prevalent. The government's efforts to control federal health care expenditures brought about the Medicare fee freeze, the Participation Program, and Maximum Actual Allowable Charges.

In the coming decade the federal government is set to impose even more restrictions on physician reimbursement for Medicare services. Such restrictions, such as use of a resource-based relative value scale in determining the physician reimbursement, will impact the distribution of physician earnings across specialties and geographic regions.

Variations in physician earnings over time and across specialties and geographic regions provide

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Table 1. **Median Physician Net Income (in thousands of dollars) after Expenses before Taxes, 1981-1989**

	Median Net Income			Average Annual Percent Change	
	1981	1989 Nominal	1989 Real[a]	Nominal	Real
All physicians[b]	$75	$125	$92	6.6%	2.5%
Specialty					
General/family practice	60	90	66	5.2	1.2
Internal medicine	72	120	88	6.6	2.5
Surgery	100	180	132	7.6	3.5
Pediatrics	55	93	68	6.8	2.7
Obstetrics/gynecology	96	164	120	6.9	2.8
Radiology	105	180	132	7.0	2.9
Psychiatry	64	100	73	5.7	1.7
Anesthesiology	105	180	132	7.0	2.9
Pathology	75	148	109	8.9	4.7
Census Division					
New England	65	117	83	7.6	3.1
Middle Atlantic	70	125	89	7.5	3.0
East North Central	80	122	91	5.4	1.6
West North Central	80	126	93	5.8	2.0
South Atlantic	77	128	96	6.6	2.7
East South Central	80	127	95	5.9	2.1
West South Central	80	140	105	7.2	3.4
Mountain	74	120	89	6.2	2.3
Pacific	77	124	92	6.1	2.2

Source: See text of article.
a. In 1981 dollars.
b. Includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

important indicators of the impact of changes in the medical practice environment. This report presents an overview of trends and patterns in physician net income by specialty and census division during the period 1981-1989. Throughout the discussion, physician net income (or earnings) is defined to be physician income from medical practice, after expenses but before taxes. Income includes all earnings from medical practice, including contributions into deferred compensation plans.

The 1981-1989 income data used in this report are drawn from the 1982-1989 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System (SMS) core surveys. The data have been weighted to adjust for survey nonresponse bias to improve the accuracy of estimates of income for the entire physician population. Adjustments to income for the effects of inflation since 1981 were done using the All Items Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers. An appendix to this article outlines the method for making these adjustments.

Trends in Nominal and Real Earnings

Income data contain values at the higher end of the distribution that tend to inflate the mean of the distribution. The mean, therefore, often does not provide a good measure of a "typical" individual in the population. Instead, it is the median that best reflects a "typical" earnings level. Year-to-Year changes in median physician earnings are displayed in Figure 1. Table 1 presents median net income data for 1981 and 1989. Average annual percentage increases in median physician earnings are also reported in Table 1.

Both Figure 1 and Table 1 present "real" and "nominal" income figures. Inflation-adjusted income is known as "real" income. Unadjusted income is referred to as "nominal" income. Real net income fig-

Table 2. **Distribution of Physician Net Income (in thousands of dollars) after Expenses before Taxes, by Specialty and Census Division, 1989**

	25th Percentile	Median	75th Percentile	Mean	Standard Error of the Mean
All physicians[a]	$ 85	$125	$195	$155.8	2.15
Specialty					
General/family practice	63	90	115	95.9	2.27
Internal medicine	80	120	175	146.5	5.13
Surgery	120	180	279	220.5	6.38
Pediatrics	63	93	134	104.7	4.10
Obstetrics/gynecology	110	164	238	194.3	9.55
Radiology	120	180	250	210.5	10.17
Psychiatry	80	100	136	111.7	3.50
Anesthesiology	120	180	230	185.8	5.88
Pathology	92	148	200	154.5	8.94
Census Division					
New England	80	117	160	128.3	5.44
Middle Atlantic	88	125	180	152.5	4.99
East North Central	80	122	190	155.6	5.07
West North Central	87	126	203	159.2	7.01
South Atlantic	84	128	205	165.6	6.46
East South Central	88	127	205	173.0	10.12
West South Central	90	140	225	170.5	6.85
Mountain	80	120	175	142.6	8.77
Pacific	85	124	180	148.1	4.87

Source: See text of article.
a. Includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

ures presented in Table 1 express physician earnings in terms of the purchasing power of a dollar in 1981. Year-to-year growth in real net income, presented in Figure 1, represents growth net of the inflation that occurred during the one-year period in which the growth was measured.

Table 1 shows that median net income rose from $75,000 in 1981 to $125,000 in 1989. This increase corresponds to an average annual growth rate of 6.6%. However, after controlling for the effects of inflation over the period, physician earnings rose at an annual average rate of 2.5% or to just $92,000. Figure 1 shows that substantial year-to-year variations in real and nominal income growth were experienced.

Specialty and geographic variations in the level and growth of physician earnings are also shown in Table 1. Highlights from the data include the following:

- In 1989, median physician earnings among specialties were lowest for general/family practice physicians ($90,000) and pediatricians ($93,000).
- In 1989, median physician earnings were highest among surgery, anesthesiology, and radiology—$180,000 each.
- Average annual growth in nominal median net income during the period 1981-1989, across specialties, ranged from 5.2% for general/family practice to 8.9% for pathology.
- Average annual growth in real median net income during the 1981-1989 period ranged from 1.2% for general/family practice to 4.7% for pathology.
- In 1989 physician earnings among census divisions exhibited a fairly small range — from $117,000 in New England to $140,000 in the West South Central states.

Table 3. **Consumer Price Index 1970 to 1989[a]**

Year	CPI	Year	CPI
1970	38.8	1980	82.4
1971	40.5	1981	90.9
1972	41.8	1982	96.5
1973	44.4	1983	99.6
1974	49.3	1984	103.9
1975	53.8	1985	107.6
1976	56.9	1986	109.6
1977	60.6	1987	113.6
1978	65.2	1988	118.4
1979	72.6	1989	124.0

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics All Items
Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers.
a. Base year 1982-1984=100.

- Growth in nominal median physician earnings across census divisions from 1981-1989, ranged from 5.4% in the East North Central states to 7.6% in New England.
- Growth in real median earnings across census divisions from 1981-1989, ranged from 1.6% in the East North Central states to 3.4% in the West South Central states.

As a real growth comparison figure, median family income in the United States, adjusted for inflation, grew 1.7% during the period 1981-1989 (U.S Department of Commerce).

Distribution of Physician Net Income

Although median net income from medical practice is the single statistic best representing the "typical" physician earnings, there are other measures that provide further information on the range of earnings that might be considered typical. Another picture of earnings emerges when one combines a measure of central tendency with a dispersion statistic. This is often done by examining means and standard errors of the data. It may also be accomplished by examining medians and interquartile ranges, i.e., ranges from the 25th percentile of earnings to the 75th percentile. Table 2 reports both sets of information for physician earnings in 1989.

Several points emerge from Table 2:

- Comparison of the mean to the median income indicates that a majority of physicians earn less than the average earnings level. Although average net income among physicians was $155,800, half of all physicians earned less than $125,000.
- Dispersion in earnings is measured as the difference between earnings at the 25th percentile and earnings at the 75th percentile. Earnings of lower paid specialties are generally less disperse than earnings of higher paid specialties.
- No clear pattern emerges among the dispersion of earnings across census divisions. Median earnings across census divisions ranged from $117,000 to $140,000. Dispersion of earnings ranged from $80,000 to $135,000.

Among all physicians the dispersion of earnings is $110,000.

Summary and Conclusions

Analysis of trends in nominal and real physician net income indicates that physician income growth exceeded the rate of inflation during the period 1981-1989. During that period, median nominal net income increased at an average annual rate of 6.6%. In real terms, average annual growth was 2.5%.

The rate of growth in median earnings, both real and nominal, varied by specialty and census division during this period. General/family practice physicians experienced the lowest rate of growth in both real and nominal terms during the 1981-1989 period. Pathologists experienced the highest rate of growth during this period. Across census divisions real earnings growth rates ranged from 1.6% in the East North Central states to 3.4% in the West South Central States.

Most physicians earned less then the mean net income of $155,800 in 1989. Half of physicians earned less than $125,000 and one-fourth earned less than $85,000. At the lower end of the income distribution half of all general/family practice physicians earned less than $90,000 and one-fourth earned less than $63,000. At the upper end of the distribution, half of all surgeons earned $180,000 or more and one-fourth earned $279,000 or more.

Appendix: Methodology for Computing Real Income

In the preceding article, 1989 nominal net income figures were converted to real net income figures in order to control for the effects of inflation that oc-

curred during the period 1981-1989. In this instance, real net income figures were expressed in terms of the purchasing power of a dollar in 1981. However, it is also possible to express real net income in terms of the purchasing power of a dollar in 1970 or any other year. This can be done using the figures from the All Items Consumer Price Index (CPI) that are presented in Table 3.

The basic formula for converting dollars in one year to a number that expresses their purchasing power in another year is as follows:

Real dollars in year i = CPI_i/CPI_j x nominal dollars in year j

where CPI_i = the Consumer Price Index for the year in which the real dollars will be expressed (year i), and CPI_j = the Consumer Price Index for the year in which the nominal dollars are expressed (year j).

For example, the following formula was used to convert 1989 nominal net income to real income in 1981 dollars:

Real net income = CPI_{1981}/CPI_{1989} x 1989 nominal median net income =

(90.9/124.0) x $125,000 = $91,600.

In January 1988, the Bureau of Labor Statistics changed the base period used to calculate the Consumer Price Index. The index was changed in order to better reflect current consumption patterns and thus provide a more accurate measure of changes in the costs of goods and services. As part of the change, the base period for the index was changed from 1967 to the period 1982-1984. All of the information in Table 3 reflect this change.

Reference

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Medical Professional Liability Claims and Premiums, 1985-1989

By Eric J. Slora and Martin L. Gonzalez

Medical professional liability remains an issue of great importance for physicians and policymakers. A comparison of physicians' claim experiences in 1988 and 1989 indicates moderation in measures of professional liability claim frequency as well as in average premiums. In this article, trends in claim frequency and cost of insurance premiums are examined. Specific findings of the analysis include the following:

- The average annual rate of professional liability claims increased from 6.4 per 100 physicians in 1988 to 7.4 per 100 in 1989. However, the increase was not statistically significant. Since 1985, the overall claims rate has declined at an average annual rate of 10.1%. This appears to be the result of moderation between 1987 and 1989, coupled with a decline between 1985 and 1987.
- The claims rate appeared to moderate across almost all specialties and geographic areas between 1988 and 1989, as evidenced by the one-year changes observed. The lone exception was the significant increase observed for psychiatry.
- Average professional liability premiums also appeared to moderate between 1988 and 1989. Still, premiums have increased steadily in recent years. Since 1985, average professional liability premiums have increased at an average annual rate of 13.9% for all physicians.
- When adjusted for inflation, about one-tenth of increased revenues of the average self-employed physician from 1982 to 1989 were used to pay for higher premiums. This suggests the important role of professional liability in contributing to increased expenditures on physician services.

The information included in this article is derived from 1983 to 1990 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System (SMS) core surveys of nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents. For purposes of this study, information reported by respondents to the surveys was weighted to correct for survey nonresponse in order to provide a more accurate estimate of the experience of the entire physician population. This may cause some information to differ from previously reported SMS surveys relating to medical professional liability.

Trends in Professional Liability Claims

A comparison of claims per 100 physicians in 1988 and 1989 shown in Table 1 indicates that overall, claim frequency continued to moderate. Claim frequency for all physicians was 7.4 claims per 100 physicians in 1989, as compared with 6.4 per 100 in 1988. While the claims rate did increase between 1988 and 1989, that increase was not statistically significant.

Since 1985, the overall claims rate has declined at an average annual rate of 10.1%. This appears to be the result of the moderation between 1987 and 1989, coupled with the decline in overall claim frequency between 1985 and 1987. During the period 1985-1987, claims declined at an average annual rate of 19.0%. In comparison, claims increased at a rate of 5.0% during the period 1987-1989.

Claim frequency appeared to moderate between 1988 and 1989 across almost all specialties and geographic areas studied, as evidenced by the one-year changes observed. The lone exception was the significant 1988-1989 increase in claim frequency

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Table 1. **Annual Professional Liability Claims per 100 Physicians, by Specialty and Census Division, 1985–1989**

	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	Average Annual Rate of Change 1985–1989
All physicians	10.2	9.2	6.7[a]	6.4	7.4	−10.1%[b]
Specialty						
General/family practice	5.7	7.6	5.7	6.2	6.6	5.0
Internal medicine	6.2	5.5	4.5	4.3	5.9	−1.6
Surgery	16.8	15.8	12.7	10.2	11.2	−12.6[b]
Pediatrics	7.2	6.8	4.5	3.7	5.4	−9.1
Obstetrics/gynecology	25.8	13.0[a]	8.0	15.1[a]	13.5	−19.4[b]
Radiology	12.8	11.5	8.0	5.2	5.0	−26.9[b]
Psychiatry	2.9	4.5	1.6	0.6	5.1[a]	20.7
Anesthesiology	7.5	8.7	4.6	4.0	5.9	− 7.7
Pathology	3.3	1.9	4.9	3.6	2.5	− 8.8
Other	10.4	9.1	5.9	6.7	5.7	−18.2
Census Division						
New England	7.6	10.1	4.0	8.4	4.0	−19.3
Middle Atlantic	13.9	12.7	7.8	7.1	7.5	−18.6[b]
East North Central	13.2	10.1	10.5	7.5	10.8	− 6.5
West North Central	9.6	8.6	3.9	4.0	5.9	−15.0
South Atlantic	7.0	7.5	5.6	4.7	4.8	−11.8
East South Central	5.5	7.3	9.2	6.4	9.0	17.8
West South Central	12.4	8.6	6.3	10.4	10.7	− 4.8
Mountain	6.2	9.0	4.1	5.0	5.6	− 3.3
Pacific	9.3	7.5	5.4	4.4	6.1	−13.1

Source: See text of article.
a. Change from previous year statistically significant at the p=.05 level.
b. 1985–1989 change statistically significant at the p=.05 level.

for psychiatry. Claim frequency for that specialty jumped from 0.6 claims per 100 physicians in 1988 to 5.1 per 100 in 1989.

A number of the most recent one-year changes across specialties and geographic areas appear slightly different than longer-term results. Significant 1985-1989 declines occurred in three specialties—surgery, obstetrics/gynecology, and radiology—and in one census division—the Middle Atlantic. Two of the four—surgery and the Middle Atlantic census division—experienced increases (albeit nonsignificant) between 1988 and 1989. The other two—obstetrics/gynecology and radiology—experienced nonsignificant declines between 1988 and 1989. Interestingly, obstetrics/gynecology did experience a statistically significant increase in claims between 1987 and 1988.

In general, the results indicate a leveling off in the claims rate in contrast to the increases of the early- and mid-1980s and the decline during the period 1985-1987. It is unclear whether such moderation will continue. Despite the moderation observed, the claims rate is still somewhat higher than it was prior to 1981. As reported by Gonzalez (1986), the average annual claims rate prior to 1981 was 3.2 claims per 100 physicians. However, caution should be exercised when comparing this figure to figures reported in Table 1 because of a methodological change in the way the claims rate was calculated for 1985 and after.

The incidence of liability claims is not confined to a small proportion of the physician population. As Table 2 indicates, 37.8% of all physicians have incurred at least one claim during their careers. Over one-half of all obstetrician-gynecologists (60.2%) and surgeons (52.0%) have incurred at least one claim. Across census divisions, physicians in the

Table 2. **Percent of Physicians Incurring Professional Liability Claims, 1985–1989 and in Career, by Specialty and Census Division**

	Percent Incurring Claims Annually					Average Annual Rate of Change 1985–1989	Percent Incurring Claims in Career as of 1989
	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989		
All physicians	8.5%	7.6%	6.0%[a]	5.8%	6.6%	−8.1%[b]	37.8%
Specialty							
General/family practice	5.5	6.3	5.1	5.7	4.9	−3.1	40.5
Internal medicine	5.4	4.8	4.3	3.8	5.5	0.6	28.0
Surgery	13.6	12.3	11.0	8.8	9.9	−10.0[b]	52.0
Pediatrics	6.6	5.7	3.9	3.5	5.4	−6.5	24.9
Obstetrics/gynecology	20.0	10.9[a]	6.7	14.1[a]	13.2	−12.9[b]	60.2
Radiology	11.2	10.5	6.5	4.3	5.0	−23.6[b]	35.1
Psychiatry	2.9	4.1	1.6	0.6	4.4[a]	14.9	22.2
Anesthesiology	7.5	8.2	4.2	4.0	5.9	−7.7	32.8
Pathology	3.3	1.9	4.9	3.6	2.5	−8.8	16.2
Other	7.5	7.4	5.7	6.4	5.3	−10.9	40.3
Census Division							
New England	7.2	9.5	4.0[a]	7.4	2.9[a]	−26.1[b]	27.3
Middle Atlantic	11.5	9.7	6.5[a]	6.5	7.4	−13.7[b]	44.0
East North Central	10.6	8.3	8.9	6.4	9.3[a]	−4.3	41.1
West North Central	7.2	7.8	3.5[a]	4.0	5.6	−8.0	35.8
South Atlantic	6.3	6.2	5.2	4.5	4.6	−10.0	29.6
East South Central	4.5	5.9	7.8	6.4	7.6	19.1	38.4
West South Central	10.4	7.8	6.1	8.7	9.6	−2.6	41.4
Mountain	5.2	7.5	4.1	4.6	5.6	2.5	37.6
Pacific	8.0	6.2	5.2	4.1	5.3	−12.8	39.1

Source: See text of article.
a. Change from previous year statistically significant at the p=.05 level.
b. 1985–1989 change statistically significant at the p=.05 level.

Middle Atlantic, West South Central, and East North Central areas report the highest career percentages.

In 1989, 13.2% of obstetrician-gynecologists incurred a claim, the highest among specialties. Across census divisions, physicians in the West South Central states (9.6%) were most likely to have incurred a claim in 1989.

Trends in Professional Liability Premiums

Average professional liability insurance premiums, as reported here, embody coverage limits of insurance purchased as well as the price of insurance at those limits. Average premiums paid by self-employed physicians from 1982 to 1989 are shown in Table 3. Premiums rose at a 15.1% annual rate during this period, increasing from $5,800 in 1982 to $15,500 in 1989. In contrast, the average annualized rate of inflation was 3.6% and total practice revenues increased by 8.2% annually over the same period.

The increase in premiums has been a factor contributing to growth in expenditures on physician services. From 1982 to 1989, 9.6% of the average increase in revenues of self-employed physicians adjusted for inflation were devoted to higher premium expenses. The more rapid rate of increase in premiums relative to revenues has caused the share of revenues devoted to paying professional liability insurance premiums to increase from 3.1% in 1982 to 4.8% in 1989.

Table 4 presents detailed information on professional liability insurance premiums paid by self-employed physicians between 1985 and 1989. Average professional liability premiums appeared to moderate between 1988 and 1989. The average premium in 1989 was $15,500, a statistically nonsig-

Table 3. **Average Professional Liability Insurance Premiums Paid and Total Practice Revenues of Self-Employed Physicians, 1982-1989**

	Insurance Premiums Paid[a]	Total Practice Revenues[a]	Premiums as a Percent of Revenues
1982	$5.8	$186.0	3.1%
1983	6.9	199.3	3.5
1984	8.4	212.2	4.0
1985	10.5	226.8	4.6
1986	12.8	249.5	5.1
1987	15.0	269.9	5.6
1988	15.9	300.7	5.3
1989	15.5	323.7	4.8
1989 net of inflation[b]	12.1	251.9	4.8
Average annual percent increase			
1982-1989	15.1%	8.2%	-
1982-1989 net of inflation[b]	11.1	4.4	-

Source: See text of article.
a. In thousands of dollars.
b. In 1982 dollars.

Table 4. **Average Professional Liability Premiums Paid by Self-Employed Physicians, 1985-1989**

	Annual premiums (in thousands of dollars)					Average Annual Rate of Change
	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1985-1989
All physicians	$10.5	$12.8[a]	$15.0[a]	$15.9	$15.5	13.9%[b]
Specialty						
General/family practice	6.8	7.3	8.9	9.4	9.0	9.8[b]
Internal medicine	5.8	7.1[a]	8.4[a]	9.0	8.2	12.2[b]
Surgery	16.6	21.3[a]	24.5[a]	26.5	25.8	15.8[b]
Pediatrics	4.7	6.3[a]	7.1	9.3	7.8	18.4[b]
Obstetrics/gynecology	23.5	29.3[a]	35.3[a]	35.3	37.0	16.3[b]
Radiology	8.9	10.4	9.5	12.9[a]	13.3	14.3[b]
Psychiatry	2.5	3.4[a]	3.8	4.4	6.3	36.1[b]
Anesthesiology	17.9	20.5[a]	22.9	23.6	21.7	6.6[b]
Pathology	3.1	4.4[a]	6.2[a]	4.9	5.5	21.1[b]
Other	6.0	8.5[a]	8.4	8.5	9.3	15.7[b]

Source: See text of article.
a. Change from previous year statistically significant at the p=.05 level.
b. 1985-1989 change statistically significant at the p=.05 level.

nificant change from the $15,900 average premium reported for 1988. This marks the second consecutive year in which premiums have leveled off, after the increases observed through 1987. Still, since 1985, premiums have increased at an average annual rate of 13.9% for all physicians.

Among specialties, there is some variation in actual average premiums paid. These variations tend to reflect differences in claims rates. The correspondence, however, is not complete since premiums are affected by the severity of claims and other factors in addition to claims rates.

Specialists in obstetrics/gynecology paid, on average, the highest professional liability insurance premiums in 1989 ($37,000) while pathologists paid the lowest ($5,500). Premiums are up significantly over 1985, with average annual increases ranging from 6.6% for anesthesiology to 36.1% for psychiatry.

Premiums also varied by geographical area, type of practice, location, and physician age. Table 55, located in the Detailed Statistics section of this volume, provides full breakdowns by these variables.

References

Gonzalez, Martin L. "Trends in Physicians' Professional Liability Claims and Insurance Premiums." Socioeconomic Characteristics of Medical Practice 1986. Chicago: American Medical Association, 1986.

Practice Cost Shares of Self-Employed Physicians

Kurt D. Gillis and Richard J. Willke

Introduction

Medicare payment reform has recently focused attention on physicians' practice costs and on geographic adjustment of payment amounts to reflect differences in those costs. An important factor in determining practice cost reimbursement is the share of total revenue that is due to practice expenses, both overall and by expense category. Current Medicare payment reform legislation allows geographic differences in unit costs for different expense categories, but only allows expense shares to vary across specialties. An important issue is whether expenses for office space, equipment, and so on (as a share of total practice revenue), differ significantly across practices, and whether they are changing substantially over time.

This article examines trends in practice cost shares and differences in these cost shares across practices using data from AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System (SMS) core surveys of nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents. The primary focus of the analysis is 1989 data that are derived from the 1990 SMS core survey. Trend data during the period 1983-1988 from the 1984-1989 SMS core surveys are also reported.

The SMS surveys include questions about the physician's share of total practice expenses for several categories of "practice inputs". These questions are asked only of self-employed physicians. "Practice inputs" include medical supplies, equipment, nonphysician labor, office space, professional liability insurance, other expenses, and (as measured by physician net income from medical practice) physician work. Average spending for these inputs are reported in the `Detailed Statistics' section of this volume and elsewhere.

Unweighted averages of individual physician expense shares for each of the six expense categories and for net income are computed in this analysis. Alternatively, expense shares may be estimated by computing the ratio of overall mean expenses to overall mean practice revenue. The latter approach places more weight on higher grossing practices and is potentially unrepresentative of the "typical" medical practice if medical practice technology, i.e., the way in which practice inputs are used, differs significantly between large-scale and small-scale practices.

Trends: 1983-1989

In 1989 practice expenses averaged 44.9% of gross revenues for self-employed physicians.[1] The largest expense category, nonphysician employee wages, accounted for 15.8% of revenues, or more than one-third of expenses. Office expenses accounted for 10.5%, and professional liability insurance premiums for 4.9% of revenues for the typical practice in 1989. The remaining categories—medical supplies, equipment and other expenses—accounted for 4.9%, 2.2% and 6.6% of gross revenues, respectively.

The 44.9% mean practice expense ratio for 1989 compares with a ratio of mean practice expenses to mean gross revenues of 45.4% for the same year, and indicates that higher grossing practices in the sample had a slightly larger fraction of revenues go toward practice expenses. Indeed, this observation holds for all years examined, with the gap being as large as 2.4 percentage points. This difference is largely accounted for by differences in spending on

1. The standard error of the mean net income share was approximately 0.5% for all years reported.

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Table 1. **Practice Expense Shares of Self-Employed Physicians, 1983-1989**

	Mean Ratio of Expense to Total Practice Revenues (in percent)							
Year	Net income	Expenses	Nonphysician Employee Wages	Office Rent	Professional Liability Insurance	Medical Supplies	Equipment	Other Expenses
1983	58.6%	41.4%	13.3%	10.6%	3.5%	4.6%	2.5%	7.0%
1984	57.6	42.4	13.4	11.1	4.2	4.6	2.3	6.7
1985	56.6	43.4	14.0	11.3	4.9	4.5	2.4	6.4
1986	55.9	44.1	14.1	11.0	5.5	4.8	2.4	6.3
1987	56.3	43.7	14.8	11.0	5.5	4.9	2.2	5.3
1988	55.7	44.3	14.7	11.6	5.6	4.7	2.1	5.6
1989	55.1	44.9	15.8	10.5	4.9	4.9	2.2	6.6

Source: See text of article.

nonphysician personnel, with the average ratio uniformly lower than the ratio of the averages—implying that higher grossing practices tend to spend more of their revenue dollar on nonphysician labor. For other practice inputs, the difference between these two measures was generally less than one-half of a percentage point.

Physician net income as a percent of gross revenue has exhibited a gradual but persistent downward trend throughout the period considered. As Table 1 shows, the share of net income fell from an estimated 58.6% in 1983 to 55.1% in 1989. The 3.5 percentage point decline can be attributed mainly to a 2.5 percentage point increase in the nonphysician personnel share and a 1.4 point increase in the professional liability insurance share. The increase in the nonphysician employee wage share may reflect a growing demand for skilled and technically trained medical personnel, or perhaps a need for more clerical personnel to handle increasing claims and review requirements. Trends in the professional liability insurance component show a leveling off in premiums after tremendous growth during the period 1983 to 1988. During that period, the share of revenues that was devoted to premiums increased by an estimated 60%. Other components of practice expenses have remained fairly stable as a percent of gross revenues over this period.

Practice Cost Shares Across Specialties in 1989

As expected, Table 2 shows considerable differences in practice cost shares across specialties. Primary care specialties tend to have high overall expense ratios while hospital-based specialties have low overall expense ratios. For example, practice expenses account for more than half of practice revenue for the average general/family practitioner or pediatrician, but roughly only one-fourth of practice revenue for those in anesthesiology, pathology or emergency medicine. The difference is due to higher spending on employee wages, office rent, supplies and equipment by the primary care physicians. The average internal medicine subspecialist, surgeon or obstetrician/gynecologist has an expense share profile similar to that for all physicians, although professional liability insurance shares are higher for the latter two.

Table 2 also indicates that, geographically, there appear to be few substantial differences in expense shares. Observed differences may be associated with the specialty mix of the region. For example, one of the more rural regions, the West North Central, has the highest overall expense ratio and highest share for employee wages. It also has a relatively high concentration of primary care physicians. In other cases, geographic differences may be driven by price. For example, the office rent share is lowest in the East South Central region at 7.9% and highest in the Pacific region at 11.8%, probably reflecting regional differences in the price of office space. The professional liability insurance share is highest in the mountain region, at 7.7%.

Comparisons of physicians practicing in rural versus urban areas are shown in Table 3. What appear to be specialty driven differences are apparent in Table 3. For example, physicians practicing in the most rural counties examined (nonmetropolitan counties with population less than 25,000) have the highest overall expense ratio, and the highest employee wage and medical supplies expense ratios of any county category—a profile representative of

Table 2. **Practice Expense Shares of Self-Employed Physicians, by Specialty and Census Division, 1989**

	Mean Ratio of Expense to Total Practice Revenues (in percent)							
	Net income	Expenses	Nonphysician Employee Wages	Office Rent	Professional Liability Insurance	Medical Supplies	Equipment	Other Expenses
All physicians	55.1%	44.9%	15.8%	10.5%	4.9%	4.9%	2.2%	6.6%
Specialty								
General/family practice	44.4	55.6	22.1	12.0	4.1	8.1	2.4	6.9
General internal medicine	50.6	49.4	19.1	12.1	3.3	6.7	2.7	5.5
Internal medicine subspecialties	59.7	40.3	14.8	10.1	3.1	4.0	1.9	6.4
General surgery	58.4	41.6	13.0	9.5	9.0	3.0	1.6	5.6
Surgical subspecialties	51.9	48.1	17.1	10.9	5.9	4.5	2.8	6.9
Pediatrics	47.7	52.3	17.4	12.4	3.5	8.2	2.7	8.1
Obstetrics/ gynecology	52.2	47.8	15.0	9.6	9.0	4.7	2.6	6.9
Radiology	67.4	32.6	10.2	7.2	3.7	2.2	2.1	7.2
Psychiatry	71.0	29.0	6.8	10.7	3.3	0.9	0.9	6.3
Anesthesiology	72.2	27.8	8.4	3.4	8.4	0.7	0.5	6.4
Pathology	74.3	25.7	8.9	3.6	2.1	3.8	0.8	6.4
Emergency medicine	75.3	24.7	7.6	4.0	5.5	2.8	0.8	4.1
Other specialties	58.2	41.8	14.3	12.1	3.1	3.6	1.7	7.2
Census Region								
New England	54.0	46.0	18.1	10.5	5.6	4.0	1.9	5.8
Middle Atlantic	57.7	42.3	13.7	10.9	5.5	4.3	2.1	5.7
East North Central	55.9	44.1	15.6	9.7	5.2	4.4	2.1	7.1
West North Central	52.8	47.2	18.3	10.6	5.0	5.2	1.9	6.2
South Atlantic	53.8	46.2	17.1	11.0	4.3	5.1	2.4	6.3
East South Central	56.1	43.9	17.7	7.9	4.1	6.4	2.1	5.6
West South Central	56.1	43.9	16.1	10.0	3.9	5.4	2.1	6.4
Mountain	54.8	45.2	14.6	9.4	7.7	5.3	1.9	6.4
Pacific	53.7	46.3	14.9	11.8	4.3	5.1	2.2	8.0

Source: See text of article.

general/family practice. In contrast, expense profiles for physicians in metropolitan areas were similar to that for all physicians. Physicians practicing in densely populated counties (over one million population) tend to spend proportionately less on employee wages and more on office rent than those in less populated counties. Perhaps surprisingly, there is little difference in the share of gross revenues spent on professional liability premiums across practice locations.

As shown in Table 3, experience (total years in practice) appears to have little impact on how practice revenues are allocated, with the exception of physicians in practice over 30 years. This group has substantially higher nonphysician employee wage, medical supply, and other expense ratios, and as a result, a lower ratio of net income to practice revenues. This difference, again, is largely a result of specialty mix.

Table 3. **Practice Expense Shares of Self-Employed Physicians, by Location, Years in Practice, and Size of Practice, 1989**

	Mean Ratio of Expense to Total Practice Revenues (in percent)							
	Net income	Expenses	Nonphysician Employee Wages	Office Rent	Professional Liability Insurance	Medical Supplies	Equipment	Other Expenses
All physicians	55.1%	44.9%	15.8%	10.5%	4.9%	4.9%	2.2%	6.6%
Location								
Nonmetropolitan, less than 25 thousand	49.0	51.0	20.6	10.3	4.6	7.1	2.5	5.8
Nonmetropolitan, 25-50 thousand	49.6	50.4	19.0	9.7	5.6	6.9	2.6	6.6
Nonmetropolitan, greater than 50 thousand	55.1	44.9	16.7	10.2	4.6	5.0	2.2	6.2
Metropolitan, less than 1 million	56.1	43.9	16.4	9.8	4.6	4.7	2.0	6.3
Metropolitan, greater than 1 million	55.8	44.2	14.2	11.2	5.1	4.6	2.2	7.0
Years in practice								
0-5	55.6	44.4	15.3	10.9	4.5	4.9	2.5	6.4
6-10	55.7	44.3	15.8	10.1	4.8	4.7	2.6	6.4
11-20	56.7	43.3	15.1	10.3	4.8	4.6	2.0	6.5
21-30	55.4	44.6	15.7	10.6	5.1	4.7	2.2	6.2
more than 30	48.9	51.1	18.8	10.9	5.4	6.6	1.6	7.8
Practice Size								
Solo practitioner	54.7	45.3	14.7	11.8	5.1	4.9	2.2	6.6
2 physicians	53.0	47.0	17.7	10.1	4.9	5.4	2.3	6.7
3-4 physicians	54.0	46.0	18.3	9.6	4.5	5.1	2.0	6.5
5-7 physicians	58.4	41.6	16.9	6.7	4.6	4.5	1.9	7.1
8 or more physicians	60.5	39.5	15.3	7.2	4.6	4.4	1.9	6.0

Source: See text of article.

For younger physicians, we might expect spending on medical equipment to be substantially higher as part of the process of starting practice. However, to be consistent with other expense categories, the SMS survey includes only tax deductible expenses for depreciation, leases and rent on medical equipment—not total spending on equipment. Therefore, it is not surprising to find that, as a percent of gross income, tax deductible equipment expenses are only slightly higher for physicians with 10 or fewer years experience compared to the overall average.

Finally, Table 3 also reports expense shares by physician practice size (recall that physicians report "their share" of practice expenses in the SMS survey). Over half of self-employed physicians responding to the expense questions were solo practitioners; this category tends to dominate the overall averages. As practice size increases, expenses that are relatively fixed in nature (i.e., expenses that do not tend to increase as practice size increases) should consume a smaller proportion of gross revenues. Office expenses do just that, accounting for 11.8% of gross revenues for solo practitioners and only 7.2% of gross revenues for physicians in groups of 8 or more. Also, medical equipment, supplies and other expenses are lowest in the 8 or more physician category. As a result, the average

Table 4. **Practice Expense Shares of Self-Employed Physicians, by Number of Patient Visits, 1989**[a]

Specialty/ Number of visits	Mean Ratio of Expense to Total Practice Revenues (in percent)							
	Net income	Expenses	Nonphysician Employee Wages	Office Rent	Professional Liability Insurance	Medical Supplies	Equipment	Other Expenses
All Physicians								
75 or fewer visits	51.1%	48.9%	14.9%	13.4%	6.4%	4.4%	2.3%	7.5%
76-110 visits	55.1	44.9	15.9	10.6	5.1	5.1	2.2	6.0
111-150 visits	50.9	49.1	18.4	10.6	4.9	6.0	2.7	6.5
more than 150 visits	51.3	48.7	19.3	10.3	3.8	6.6	2.2	6.5
General/family practice								
75 or fewer visits	44.9	55.1	20.6	12.4	4.9	9.0	2.2	5.9
76-110 visits	47.2	52.8	20.0	12.3	5.1	5.9	2.5	7.0
111-150 visits	43.2	56.8	22.2	12.6	4.2	8.6	2.3	6.9
more than 150 visits	44.4	55.6	22.8	11.7	3.4	8.4	2.3	6.9
Medical specialties								
75 or fewer visits	52.2	47.8	14.7	14.3	4.3	3.7	2.3	8.4
76-110 visits	55.5	44.5	16.6	11.3	3.4	6.4	2.1	4.8
111-150 visits	49.4	50.6	18.8	11.4	3.0	7.0	3.1	7.3
more than 150 visits	52.5	47.5	18.6	10.6	2.9	6.9	2.3	6.1
Surgical specialties								
75 or fewer visits	50.5	49.5	14.3	13.2	8.2	4.1	2.5	7.2
76-110 visits	54.0	46.0	15.2	10.0	7.1	4.3	2.5	7.0
111-150 visits	54.9	45.1	16.5	8.9	7.4	3.8	2.9	5.6
more than 150 visits	54.2	45.8	17.8	8.6	5.5	4.8	2.3	6.8
Other specialties								
75 or fewer visits	57.0	43.0	12.6	13.3	3.7	3.9	2.0	7.6
76-110 visits	67.1	32.9	11.1	8.6	3.9	2.2	1.2	6.0
111-150 visits[b]	67.9	32.1	11.1	8.4	3.5	3.1	0.9	5.1
more than 150 visits	64.8	35.2	12.8	8.3	3.8	3.8	1.1	5.4

Source: See text of article.
a. Excluding physicians in radiology, anesthesiology, pathology and psychiatry. Practice expense and net income data are for 1989 but patient visits apply to the most recent week of practice at the time of the survey.
b. Fewer than 25 observations in this category.

solo practitioner netted slightly less than 55% of gross revenue in 1989 compared to over 60% net for physicians in groups of 8 or more.

Expense Shares and Patient Visits

Total patient visits in all settings provide an indication of the scale of a physician's medical practice, or the amount of practice inputs needed. The scale of medical practice may affect practice expense shares, particularly if some practice inputs are fixed in nature (i.e., spending on these inputs does not change with the scale of medical practice). Table 4 shows that, for all physicians, the overall expense share was virtually the same for small and large scale practices. However, individual expense items varied substantially. The office rent share declined from 13.4% among those with fewer than 75 visits in the previous week to 10.3% among those with more than 150 visits. The professional liability share declined from 6.4% to 3.8% when making the same comparison, while the employee wage share rose from 14.9% to 19.3%. There appear to be no consistent differences by visit level for the medical equipment, supplies and other expense categories.

In order to account for differences in patient load across specialties, Table 4 also reports expense

Table 5. **Variation in Total Expense and Net Income Shares of Self-Employed Physicians, Across Practices, 1989**

	Percentiles of Expense Shares				
	10%	25%	50%	75%	90%
Net Income					
All physicians	31.2%	42.0%	54.6%	67.7%	81.3%
General/family practice	27.4	34.6	43.9	52.5	62.1
Medical specialties	29.3	40.4	52.4	62.9	74.7
Surgical specialties	31.7	43.3	54.0	62.9	73.5
Other specialties	41.7	56.1	71.0	82.8	90.9
Total Expenses					
All physicians	18.7	32.3	45.4	58.0	68.8
General/family practice	37.9	47.5	56.1	65.4	72.6
Medical specialties	25.3	37.1	47.6	59.6	70.7
Surgical specialties	26.5	37.1	46.0	56.7	68.3
Other specialties	9.1	17.2	29.0	43.9	58.3

Source: See text of article.

shares by patient visits for four major specialty categories. Again, within these specialty categories, the office rent and professional liability shares typically decline, and the employee wage share typically increases as patient visits increase. The persistence of these patterns suggests that the scale of medical practice is of some importance in determining expense shares, regardless of specialty.

Variation in Expense Shares Across Practices

The mean expense shares calculated previously may be unrepresentative of most practices if expense shares differ markedly across practices. In an effort to provide a comprehensive overview of the distribution of expense shares across specialties, the 10th, 25th, 50th (median), 75th, and 90th percentiles of expense shares are reported in Tables 5 and 6. Reported expense shares can be seen to differ substantially across practices. For example, for 10% of self-employed physicians (the 90th percentile), overall expenses accounted for roughly 69% or more of gross revenues. For another 10% of self-employed physicians (the 10th percentile), overall expenses accounted for roughly 19% or less of gross revenues.

The interquartile range (i.e., the difference between the 25th and 75th percentiles) provides a measure of the dispersion of expense shares across practices. For all physicians, the interquartile range for the total expense share is 25.7 percentage points. Among general/family practitioners the range was 17.9 percentage points and the range among other specialties was 26.7 points.

For individual expense categories, expense share differences are quite pronounced. The interquartile range among all physicians was 13.8 percentage points for the employee wage share, 8.5 points for office rent, 4.4 points for professional liability premiums, and 5.9 points for medical supplies. Similar variations also exist across specialty. Although part of the variation observed may be captured by finer specialty distinction, the extent of practice expense share variation suggests that mean practice expense share profiles are not representative of all physicians.

Summary

The largest single determinant of mean practice expense shares appears to be the specialty of the physician. This finding confirms what is already present in Medicare physician payment policy. This analysis also shows that the overall expense-to-revenue ratio has changed slowly with time, so that updates to existing formulas are probably not necessary on an annual basis. Smaller differences by location, experience, practice size, and patient load category are also present. In many cases, these smaller differences may also be due to different specialty mixes across categories. Multivariate analysis would be useful in confirming that this is true.

Table 6. **Variation in Expense Shares of Self-Employed Physicians, Across Practices, 1989**

	Percentiles of Expense Shares				
	10%	25%	50%	75%	90%
Employee Wages					
All physicians	0.0	8.8	15.2	22.6	29.2
General/family practice	11.3	15.9	21.0	27.0	34.1
Medical specialties	6.2	10.8	17.3	23.5	29.4
Surgical specialties	6.6	10.2	14.7	20.9	26.3
Other specialties	0.0	0.0	6.1	16.2	25.1
Office Rent					
All physicians	1.3	4.7	8.3	13.2	21.3
General/family practice	4.0	6.6	10.0	15.7	21.8
Medical specialties	2.8	5.3	8.9	15.6	23.6
Surgical specialties	3.3	5.5	7.8	11.8	19.7
Other specialties	0.0	0.8	5.7	11.9	19.0
Professional Liability					
All physicians	1.1	2.0	3.6	6.4	10.3
General/family practice	1.3	2.0	3.1	5.1	7.9
Medical specialties	0.9	1.6	2.7	4.0	6.6
Surgical specialties	1.8	3.5	5.7	9.7	13.9
Other specialties	1.0	1.7	3.0	5.7	9.2
Medical Supplies					
All physicians	0.0	0.9	3.0	6.8	11.8
General/family practice	2.0	4.0	6.8	10.1	16.0
Medical specialties	0.6	1.8	4.3	8.9	14.5
Surgical specialties	0.4	1.2	2.7	5.4	10.0
Other specialties	0.0	0.0	0.3	2.5	5.6
Equipment					
All physicians	0.0	0.0	1.2	2.9	5.5
General/family practice	0.0	0.3	1.4	3.2	5.6
Medical specialties	0.0	0.3	1.5	3.2	5.7
Surgical specialties	0.0	0.5	1.5	3.4	6.1
Other specialties	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3	3.6
Other Expenses					
All physicians	0.8	1.9	4.1	9.0	15.9
General/family practice	1.0	2.3	4.5	9.4	16.9
Medical specialties	0.7	1.7	3.8	8.8	15.7
Surgical specialties	0.9	1.9	4.0	9.1	16.3
Other specialties	0.7	1.7	4.4	8.8	15.4

Source: See text of article.

A key point in this analysis is that expense shares vary substantially across individual practices after controlling for specialty. Such variation could be due to differences in local input prices or availability, dependence on hospital resources, practice-specific patient mix and case mix, existing differences in reimbursement levels, or other factors. Medicare payment policy will adjust for local price differences (via proxy measures), and seeks to eliminate geographic variation due solely to artifactual fee differences. Further analysis is necessary, however, to identify other significant sources of variation in practice costs, and to determine whether Medicare payments should be adjusted for such differences.

Detailed Statistics

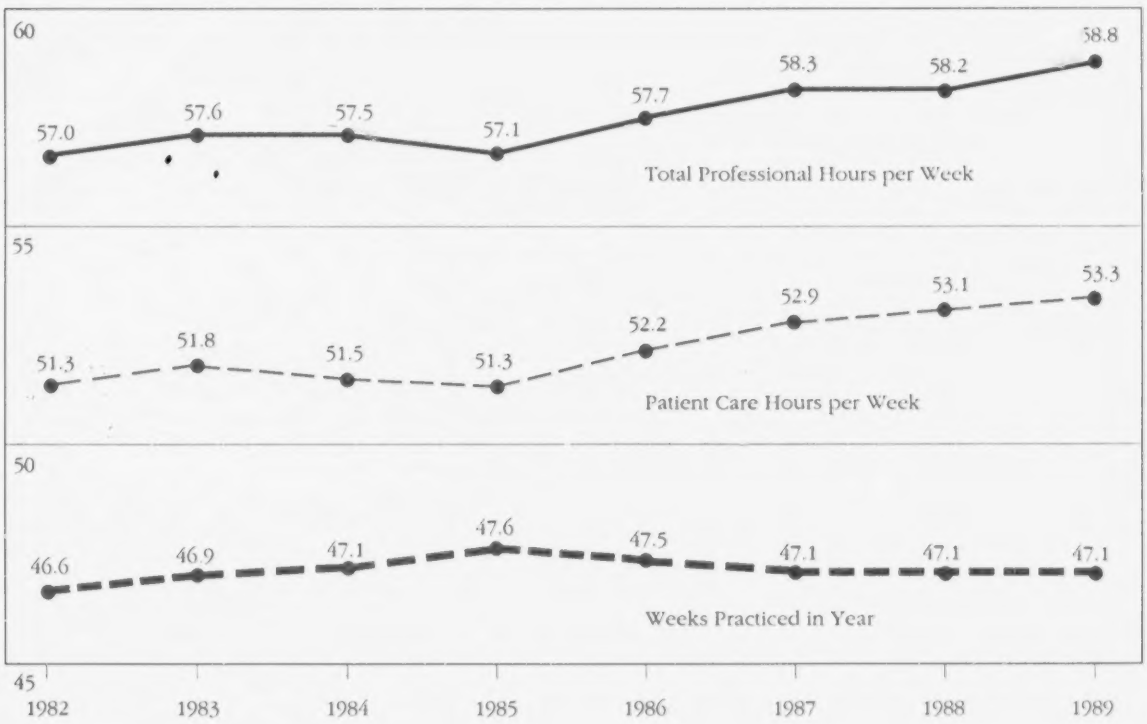
Weeks and Hours of Practice
Utilization of Physician Services
Hospital Utilization by Physicians
Fees for Physician Visits
Professional Expenses of Physicians
Physician Net Income after Expenses before Taxes

Weeks and Hours of Practice

The time spent in practice by physicians is measured in weeks per year and hours per week. Three measures of total hours in practice can be distinguished. Total professional hours combines hours in patient care with those in other professional activities, such as teaching, research, and administration. Hours in patient care activities excludes other professional hours. Direct patient care hours includes only time spent directly seeing patients; time spent in patient-related activities, such as interpreting tests and telephone contacts with patients and their families, is excluded. Direct patient care hours are allocated by activity into hours spent seeing patients in the office, on hospital rounds, in surgery (operating and delivery rooms), and in other settings.

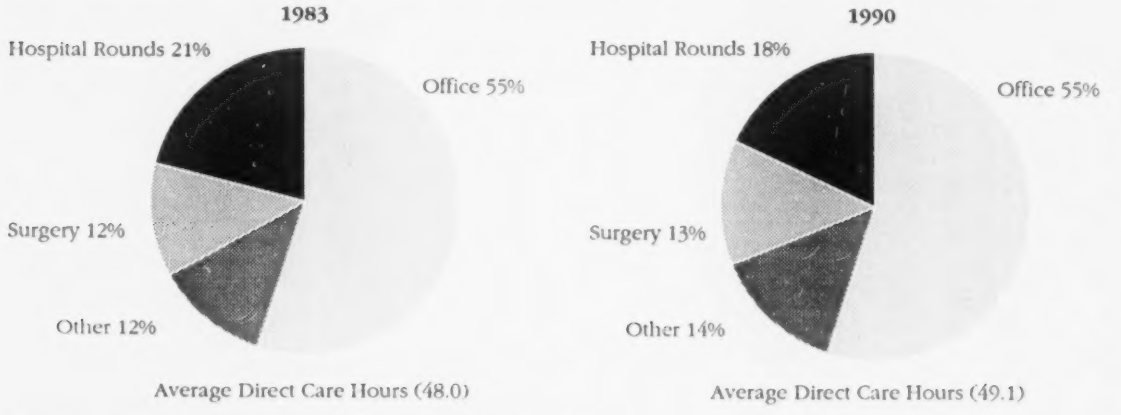
Figure 1 indicates that average weeks of practice per year was relatively stable from 1982 to 1989. Figure 2 indicates that hours per week and the allocation of direct patient care hours by activity were relatively stable from 1983–1990. Significant variations in average direct patient care hours and their allocation in 1990 by specialty are shown in Figure 3.

Figure 1. **Average Weeks and Hours per Week of Practice by All Physicians, 1982-1989**



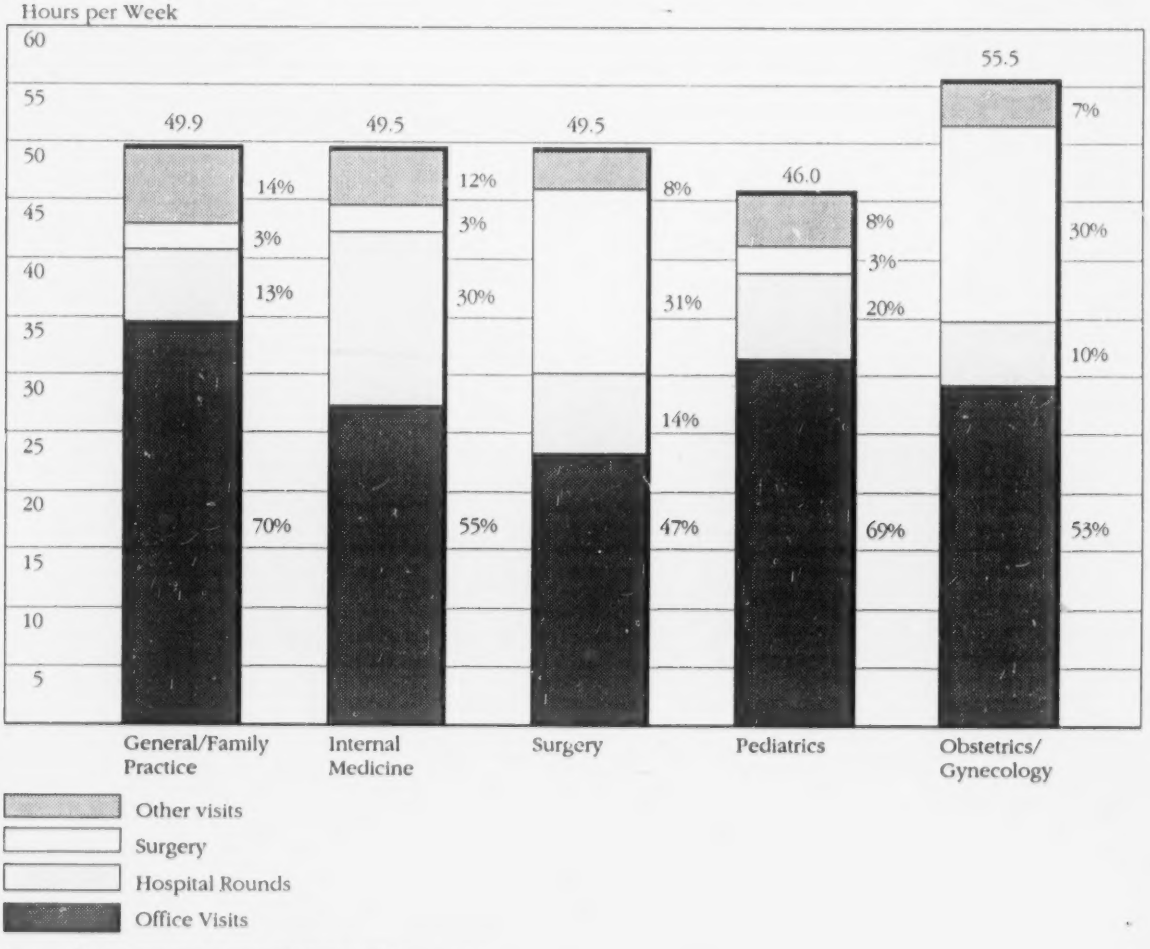
Source: AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System 1983-1990 core surveys.

Figure 2. **Distribution of Average Direct Patient Care Hours per Week of All Physicians, 1983 and 1990[a]**



Source: AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System 1983 and 1990 core surveys.
a. Excludes physicians in psychiatry, radiology, anesthesiology, and pathology.

Figure 3. **Distribution of Average Direct Patient Care Hours per Week, by Specialty, 1990[a]**



Source: AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System 1990 core survey.
a. Excludes physicians in psychiatry, radiology, anesthesiology, and pathology.

Table 1. **Mean Number of Weeks Practiced, 1989**[a]

	All Physicians[b]	Specialty								
		GP/FP	Int Med	Surg	Ped	Ob/Gyn	Rad	Psych	Anes	Path
All Physicians	47.1	48.1	47.1	46.9	47.4	47.3	45.1	46.8	45.5	47.3
Census Division										
New England	46.7	46.8	47.4	46.4	48.1	.	.	.	.	.
Middle Atlantic	47.1	48.0	47.0	46.9	47.2	47.3	44.9	47.1	46.0	.
East North Central	46.7	47.7	47.0	46.0	46.3	47.0	44.7	46.8	45.3	.
West North Central	46.6	48.2	45.2	46.5	.	.	.	.	.	.
South Atlantic	47.5	48.7	47.3	47.5	47.7	47.9	44.9	47.4	46.9	47.1
East South Central	47.4	48.1	48.3	46.9	.	.	.	.	.	.
West South Central	47.4	48.0	47.4	47.8	47.9	48.2	45.1	45.7	46.9	.
Mountain	47.4	47.3	47.3	47.2	.	47.9	.	.	.	.
Pacific	47.0	48.3	47.0	46.7	48.3	47.0	45.7	46.2	43.4	.
Type of Practice										
Solo	48.0	48.6	48.1	47.7	48.3	48.4	.	47.3	47.1	.
Non-solo	46.5	47.6	46.5	46.2	47.1	46.7	45.0	46.3	45.0	47.2
Location										
Nonmetropolitan	47.4	48.3	46.3	46.8	46.3	48.5	46.4	.	.	.
Metropolitan—										
Less than 1,000,000	47.0	47.9	47.4	46.7	47.3	47.1	44.2	46.9	44.7	47.3
1,000,000 and over	47.1	48.1	46.9	47.1	47.6	47.2	45.7	46.8	45.9	47.3
Employment Status										
Self-employed	47.5	48.5	47.7	47.2	47.8	47.8	44.9	47.3	45.6	47.1
Employee	46.2	47.0	45.4	45.4	46.7	45.9	45.3	46.0	45.3	47.5
Physician Age										
Less than 36 years	45.2	46.7	44.7	44.8	46.6	45.2	41.6	.	42.4	.
36-45 years	47.4	48.0	47.8	47.3	47.1	47.2	45.6	46.3	46.3	47.5
46-55 years	47.3	48.7	47.3	46.9	47.9	48.1	45.8	47.6	45.7	47.5
56-65 years	47.2	48.7	47.1	46.7	48.2	48.0	44.6	46.6	45.3	47.2
66 or more years	47.4	47.7	46.5	47.8	.	.	.	47.1	.	.

Source: 1990 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 1 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Weeks Practiced, 1989**[a]

	All Physicians[b]	Specialty								
		GP/FP	Int Med	Surg	Ped	Ob/Gyn	Rad	Psych	Anes	Path
All Physicians	0.07	0.15	0.19	0.13	0.24	0.23	0.26	0.27	0.29	0.24
Census Division										
New England	0.24	0.49	0.50	0.56	0.37	.	.	.	.	.
Middle Atlantic	0.15	0.27	0.43	0.28	0.44	0.47	0.72	0.33	0.56	.
East North Central	0.19	0.38	0.47	0.43	1.08	0.45	0.88	0.74	0.85	.
West North Central	0.29	0.30	1.29	0.51	.	.	.	.	.	.
South Atlantic	0.14	0.31	0.40	0.17	0.59	0.34	0.55	0.79	0.42	0.27
East South Central	0.30	0.76	0.31	0.72	.	.	.	.	.	.
West South Central	0.22	0.62	0.82	0.25	0.57	0.71	0.52	1.67	0.33	.
Mountain	0.23	0.91	0.39	0.45	.	0.41	.	.	.	.
Pacific	0.18	0.33	0.50	0.37	0.33	0.76	0.47	0.53	1.05	.
Type of Practice										
Solo	0.09	0.18	0.23	0.15	0.45	0.30	.	0.30	0.42	.
Non-solo	0.09	0.23	0.26	0.19	0.29	0.32	0.27	0.44	0.34	0.25
Location										
Nonmetropolitan	0.22	0.29	0.95	0.56	1.01	0.36	0.66	.	.	.
Metropolitan—										
Less than 1,000,000	0.10	0.27	0.20	0.19	0.38	0.46	0.38	0.50	0.49	0.42
1,000,000 and over	0.10	0.22	0.31	0.18	0.33	0.26	0.38	0.31	0.35	0.29
Employment Status										
Self-employed	0.06	0.13	0.14	0.10	0.25	0.19	0.26	0.24	0.32	0.41
Employee	0.17	0.42	0.56	0.58	0.51	0.71	0.47	0.58	0.52	0.26
Physician Age										
Less than 36 years	0.37	0.68	0.94	1.12	1.12	1.08	1.40	.	1.31	.
36-45 years	0.09	0.22	0.16	0.15	0.38	0.38	0.35	0.60	0.32	0.29
46-55 years	0.09	0.21	0.29	0.17	0.25	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.32	0.32
56-65 years	0.12	0.18	0.29	0.26	0.38	0.33	0.49	0.59	0.67	0.77
66 or more years	0.21	0.49	0.76	0.37	.	.	.	0.54	.	.

Table 2. **Mean Number of Weeks Practiced per Year, 1982-1989**[a]

	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
All Physicians	46.6	46.9	47.1	47.6	47.5	47.1	47.1	47.1
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	46.9	47.2	47.6	48.5	48.3	47.7	47.9	48.1
Internal Medicine	46.7	47.0	47.2	47.8	47.9	47.4	47.3	47.1
Surgery	46.2	46.9	47.3	47.3	47.1	47.0	46.9	46.9
Pediatrics	47.2	47.2	47.4	48.0	47.8	47.4	47.2	47.4
Obstetrics/Gynecology	46.9	47.1	46.9	48.0	47.6	47.1	47.3	47.3
Radiology	46.2	45.4	45.4	45.4	45.6	45.2	45.3	45.1
Psychiatry	47.2	47.0	47.1	47.6	47.6	47.3	47.4	46.8
Anesthesiology	46.1	45.4	45.6	46.4	46.3	45.3	45.8	45.5
Census Division								
New England	45.9	46.6	47.4	47.0	46.8	46.1	46.2	46.7
Middle Atlantic	46.7	46.9	46.5	47.7	47.2	47.1	47.0	47.1
East North Central	46.8	46.6	47.0	47.2	47.2	46.9	47.1	46.7
West North Central	46.4	45.9	47.3	47.3	47.5	46.9	46.6	46.6
South Atlantic	46.9	47.0	47.2	47.9	48.0	47.5	47.4	47.5
East South Central	47.8	48.2	47.6	48.2	48.1	47.4	47.0	47.4
West South Central	46.5	47.6	47.7	48.2	48.0	47.5	47.9	47.4
Mountain	46.1	46.2	47.1	47.7	47.3	46.8	47.1	47.4
Pacific	46.3	46.8	47.1	47.4	47.2	47.0	47.1	47.0
Type of Practice								
Solo	47.0	47.7	47.7	48.2	48.1	48.1	47.9	48.0
Non-solo	46.3	46.2	46.6	47.2	47.1	46.5	46.7	46.5
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	46.8	47.5	47.6	48.3	48.1	47.4	47.4	47.4
Metropolitan—								
Less than 1,000,000	46.5	46.7	47.1	47.5	47.4	47.1	46.9	47.0
1,000,000 and over	46.7	46.9	47.0	47.5	47.4	47.0	47.2	47.1
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	44.1	44.6	45.0	48.0	47.6	44.3	45.3	45.2
36-45 years	47.0	47.2	47.5	47.6	47.6	47.5	47.3	47.4
46-55 years	47.4	47.5	47.7	47.4	47.2	47.3	47.2	47.3
56-65 years	47.1	47.6	47.4	47.4	47.4	47.5	47.4	47.2
66 or more years	46.5	46.9	46.5	47.8	47.9	47.5	47.6	47.4

Source: 1983-1990, AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core surveys. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. Data, other than in the specialty breakdown, are based on responses from physicians in all specialties. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. This will cause figures to differ from those reported in previous editions of this volume. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

Table 2 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Weeks Practiced per Year, 1982-1989**[a]

	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
All Physicians	0.11	0.09	0.08	0.05	0.05	0.07	0.07	0.07
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	0.31	0.25	0.19	0.11	0.15	0.18	0.15	0.15
Internal Medicine	0.31	0.26	0.26	0.14	0.12	0.17	0.18	0.19
Surgery	0.25	0.18	0.17	0.10	0.12	0.14	0.13	0.13
Pediatrics	0.36	0.27	0.30	0.15	0.14	0.24	0.24	0.24
Obstetrics/Gynecology	0.38	0.30	0.37	0.15	0.26	0.27	0.28	0.23
Radiology	0.24	0.26	0.29	0.20	0.18	0.28	0.23	0.26
Psychiatry	0.23	0.29	0.23	0.12	0.15	0.26	0.19	0.27
Anesthesiology	0.32	0.34	0.26	0.21	0.19	0.33	0.28	0.29
Census Division								
New England	0.50	0.30	0.27	0.23	0.25	0.40	0.33	0.24
Middle Atlantic	0.26	0.23	0.25	0.11	0.15	0.18	0.16	0.15
East North Central	0.22	0.20	0.20	0.14	0.13	0.17	0.14	0.19
West North Central	0.35	0.39	0.25	0.17	0.17	0.27	0.28	0.29
South Atlantic	0.27	0.23	0.21	0.11	0.11	0.15	0.14	0.14
East South Central	0.27	0.25	0.37	0.16	0.18	0.33	0.33	0.30
West South Central	0.39	0.23	0.24	0.14	0.13	0.23	0.16	0.22
Mountain	0.47	0.48	0.39	0.19	0.25	0.36	0.33	0.23
Pacific	0.30	0.22	0.19	0.13	0.15	0.19	0.17	0.18
Type of Practice								
Solo	0.17	0.12	0.12	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.10	0.09
Non-solo	0.14	0.13	0.11	0.06	0.07	0.10	0.08	0.09
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	0.33	0.26	0.24	0.13	0.13	0.23	0.24	0.22
Metropolitan—								
Less than 1,000,000	0.16	0.13	0.13	0.08	0.08	0.11	0.10	0.10
1,000,000 and over	0.16	0.13	0.12	0.07	0.08	0.11	0.09	0.10
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	0.46	0.38	0.37	0.14	0.17	0.37	0.32	0.37
36-45 years	0.17	0.14	0.12	0.07	0.08	0.10	0.10	0.09
46-55 years	0.15	0.11	0.11	0.10	0.12	0.08	0.10	0.09
56-65 years	0.17	0.13	0.14	0.11	0.12	0.11	0.11	0.12
66 or more years	0.30	0.30	0.29	0.20	0.16	0.23	0.22	0.21

Table 3. **Mean Number of Hours in Professional Activities per Week, 1989**[a]

		Specialty								
	All Physicians[b]	GP/FP	Int Med	Surg	Ped	Ob/Gyn	Rad	Psych	Anes	Path
All Physicians	58.8	58.8	62.6	58.5	58.0	64.0	58.8	50.3	61.8	52.1
Census Division										
New England	56.0	55.3	60.4	54.0	49.1	.	.	51.8	.	.
Middle Atlantic	58.0	53.7	63.8	57.8	55.3	65.7	53.6	50.2	61.0	.
East North Central	57.6	59.3	63.1	57.0	56.8	59.4	55.1	47.6	62.0	48.5
West North Central	62.1	63.3	65.7	60.6	.	.	.	.	.	.
South Atlantic	60.3	59.2	62.2	58.8	63.7	64.6	61.7	51.5	66.0	.
East South Central	60.1	63.3	62.7	60.4	.	.	.	.	.	.
West South Central	60.7	62.0	62.0	61.7	57.1	66.5	64.9	.	.	.
Mountain	58.9	60.8	64.3	55.9	.	.	.	.	.	.
Pacific	57.6	54.7	60.3	59.3	57.8	63.1	56.9	50.9	59.6	.
Type of Practice										
Solo	59.0	59.2	62.8	57.8	59.1	64.8	.	52.6	56.0	.
Non-solo	58.7	58.4	62.4	59.0	57.6	63.4	58.8	47.7	63.8	51.9
Location										
Nonmetropolitan	62.6	64.0	63.0	64.9	.	.	57.2	.	.	.
Metropolitan—										
Less than 1,000,000	59.2	58.0	63.9	58.5	57.3	63.4	60.8	52.2	63.8	52.3
1,000,000 and over	57.7	55.9	61.5	57.2	58.4	64.1	56.8	49.4	60.4	51.9
Employment Status										
Self-employed	60.4	59.9	64.3	59.2	59.3	64.2	60.8	52.9	61.9	51.0
Employee	54.9	55.2	57.4	55.0	55.9	63.3	56.3	46.0	61.7	52.8
Physician Age										
Less than 36 years	59.5	59.2	60.9	63.6	56.5	63.9	62.4	.	66.6	.
36-45 years	60.5	60.9	64.2	60.8	58.8	66.0	60.0	51.0	63.4	52.7
46-55 years	59.8	63.1	62.2	59.6	59.2	66.1	58.6	51.2	61.6	53.0
56-65 years	56.6	57.0	61.5	54.9	56.0	61.3	56.8	49.7	57.2	53.6
66 or more years	52.6	51.2	57.6	51.6	.	.	.	46.1	.	.

Source: 1989 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 3 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Hours in Professional Activities per Week, 1989**[a]

	All Physicians[b]	Specialty								
		GP/FP	Int Med	Surg	Ped	Ob/Gyn	Rad	Psych	Anes	Path
All Physicians	0.27	0.68	0.68	0.58	0.84	1.12	0.97	0.95	1.34	1.14
Census Division										
New England	1.04	2.95	2.21	2.25	2.96	.	.	3.04	.	.
Middle Atlantic	0.69	2.11	1.59	1.49	1.84	3.10	1.75	1.82	3.04	.
East North Central	0.64	1.55	1.68	1.36	1.84	2.25	1.73	2.86	3.35	2.08
West North Central	1.11	2.08	2.83	2.40	.	.	.	.	.	.
South Atlantic	0.64	1.23	1.71	1.38	1.87	2.62	1.88	1.93	2.65	.
East South Central	1.06	2.76	2.79	2.28	.	.	.	.	.	.
West South Central	0.93	2.34	2.24	1.75	2.39	3.92	3.43	.	.	.
Mountain	1.23	3.25	3.95	2.46	.	.	.	.	.	.
Pacific	0.70	1.80	1.63	1.55	2.43	2.87	2.29	2.24	5.01	.
Type of Practice										
Solo	0.49	1.07	1.20	0.94	1.61	1.99	.	1.34	2.40	.
Non-solo	0.33	0.86	0.82	0.73	0.98	1.27	0.99	1.28	1.56	1.22
Location										
Nonmetropolitan	0.96	1.43	2.82	2.44	.	.	2.24	.	.	.
Metropolitan—										
Less than 1,000,000	0.41	1.02	1.08	0.80	1.25	1.76	1.54	1.70	1.94	1.70
1,000,000 and over	0.39	1.12	0.92	0.88	1.17	1.51	1.36	1.15	1.90	1.73
Employment Status										
Self-employed	0.33	0.80	0.79	0.65	1.00	1.26	1.30	1.20	1.66	1.71
Employee	0.46	1.26	1.27	1.23	1.48	2.43	1.43	1.41	2.27	1.51
Physician Age										
Less than 36 years	0.76	1.56	1.71	1.87	2.78	3.37	1.90	.	2.97	.
36-45 years	0.46	1.01	0.98	1.17	1.32	1.89	1.86	2.19	2.28	2.43
46-55 years	0.52	1.75	1.52	0.97	1.50	2.01	1.60	1.64	2.28	1.74
56-65 years	0.63	1.55	1.76	1.20	1.73	2.53	2.27	1.76	3.61	1.92
66 or more years	1.00	2.09	2.99	1.77	.	.	.	2.49	.	.

Table 4. **Mean Number of Hours in Professional Activities per Week, 1990[a]**

		Specialty								
	All Physicians[b]	GP/FP	Int Med	Surg	Ped	Ob/Gyn	Rad	Psych	Anes	Path
All Physicians	58.8	59.7	61.2	58.7	57.5	64.5	57.2	50.7	64.0	53.0
Census Division										
New England	55.6	53.7	58.6	53.0	50.1	.	.	.	.	.
Middle Atlantic	56.5	54.7	59.0	59.1	53.3	58.4	52.9	48.3	63.5	.
East North Central	58.9	59.8	60.1	58.0	59.9	66.2	63.5	53.8	61.3	.
West North Central	60.8	62.5	62.8	58.1	.	.	.	.	.	.
South Atlantic	60.9	61.4	65.3	59.3	60.7	66.5	58.4	53.5	61.4	55.6
East South Central	62.8	65.0	63.2	64.8	.	.	.	.	.	.
West South Central	61.3	65.2	64.8	58.3	60.9	67.7	59.1	49.5	66.7	.
Mountain	57.7	59.7	59.3	56.6	.	63.2	.	.	.	.
Pacific	56.9	55.7	59.1	58.5	55.7	64.5	53.5	47.3	62.9	.
Type of Practice										
Solo	59.1	60.5	61.1	57.4	59.6	66.2	.	53.1	58.9	.
Non-solo	58.7	59.1	61.2	59.7	56.8	63.5	57.3	48.8	65.3	53.5
Location										
Nonmetropolitan	62.3	64.9	60.0	61.5	64.0	64.9	58.1	.	.	.
Metropolitan—										
Less than 1,000,000	59.2	58.0	62.5	59.4	58.7	63.6	59.2	50.9	64.9	50.6
1,000,000 and over	57.8	58.4	60.2	57.3	55.5	65.2	55.3	50.5	63.1	55.5
Employment Status										
Self-employed	60.5	61.6	63.0	58.9	60.5	66.7	58.8	53.1	63.6	50.7
Employee	55.2	55.0	56.4	57.7	52.7	58.1	55.3	47.5	64.5	54.8
Physician Age										
Less than 36 years	60.2	60.1	63.6	60.4	61.9	60.4	65.4	.	61.8	.
36-45 years	60.6	61.6	63.4	61.7	56.4	68.2	56.9	50.1	65.9	53.9
46-55 years	59.3	61.7	61.8	58.9	56.8	64.5	57.5	54.4	62.6	51.1
56-65 years	56.9	58.6	56.9	55.5	58.5	62.7	57.2	49.1	63.1	55.5
66 or more years	51.0	53.6	48.0	51.0	.	56.7	.	46.8	.	.

Source: 1990 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 4 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Hours in Professional Activities per Week, 1990**[a]

	All Physicians[b]	Specialty								
		GP/FP	Int Med	Surg	Ped	Ob/Gyn	Rad	Psych	Anes	Path
All Physicians	0.28	0.72	0.71	0.55	1.05	1.23	1.07	0.96	1.04	1.21
Census Division										
New England	1.11	2.84	2.65	2.83	2.91	.	.	.	.	.
Middle Atlantic	0.69	2.08	1.48	1.55	2.43	3.27	2.07	1.92	2.55	.
East North Central	0.67	1.84	1.47	1.28	3.51	2.91	2.78	2.09	2.06	.
West North Central	1.13	2.10	3.95	2.11	.	.	.	.	.	.
South Atlantic	0.68	1.58	1.90	1.20	2.21	3.09	2.66	2.75	2.41	3.09
East South Central	1.24	2.59	3.71	2.57	.	.	.	.	.	.
West South Central	0.86	2.16	2.39	1.31	3.45	4.14	3.65	2.79	2.16	.
Mountain	1.41	3.77	3.52	2.92	.	3.98	.	.	.	.
Pacific	0.64	1.70	1.45	1.39	2.29	2.54	2.14	1.88	2.66	.
Type of Practice										
Solo	0.49	1.13	1.17	0.88	2.10	2.11	.	1.64	2.03	.
Non-solo	0.34	0.93	0.89	0.71	1.21	1.52	1.11	1.08	1.18	1.20
Location										
Nonmetropolitan	0.88	1.45	2.43	1.86	3.76	3.59	3.75	.	.	.
Metropolitan—										
Less than 1,000,000	0.42	1.06	1.06	0.80	1.75	1.87	1.72	1.76	1.49	1.75
1,000,000 and over	0.41	1.28	1.02	0.84	1.36	1.82	1.42	1.13	1.47	1.76
Employment Status										
Self-employed	0.34	0.85	0.84	0.61	1.35	1.42	1.29	1.38	1.36	1.57
Employee	0.47	1.30	1.23	1.38	1.57	2.35	1.77	1.15	1.62	1.78
Physician Age										
Less than 36 years	0.87	2.14	1.73	2.82	3.72	2.77	3.30	.	2.42	.
36-45 years	0.44	1.11	1.01	0.96	1.69	1.99	1.78	1.52	1.37	2.10
46-55 years	0.57	1.88	1.59	0.97	1.96	2.74	1.85	2.15	1.93	1.64
56-65 years	0.62	1.48	1.86	1.08	2.52	1.98	2.48	1.81	3.64	3.11
66 or more years	1.01	2.18	2.49	1.87	.	6.88	.	2.15	.	.

Table 5. **Mean Number of Hours in Professional Activities per Week, 1983-1990**[a]

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All Physicians	57.6	57.5	57.1	57.7	58.3	58.2	58.8	58.8
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	58.7	57.8	58.6	57.9	58.2	58.3	58.8	59.7
Internal Medicine	60.1	59.7	58.7	60.1	61.3	61.4	62.6	61.2
Surgery	56.1	57.4	56.8	58.1	58.2	59.2	58.5	58.7
Pediatrics	58.5	56.9	56.3	58.3	59.8	57.3	58.0	57.5
Obstetrics/Gynecology	60.6	60.7	61.5	62.9	60.9	63.4	64.0	64.5
Radiology	59.5	56.1	56.2	55.9	57.2	57.1	58.8	57.2
Psychiatry	50.9	51.6	51.1	49.2	50.4	49.0	50.3	50.7
Anesthesiology	61.5	60.2	58.5	59.4	58.8	58.8	61.8	64.0
Census Division								
New England	55.8	56.1	55.7	58.0	58.3	56.0	56.0	55.6
Middle Atlantic	56.8	56.7	56.5	56.8	55.2	56.3	58.0	56.5
East North Central	59.1	58.0	56.5	57.7	58.4	57.6	57.6	58.9
West North Central	57.8	56.6	57.5	57.5	60.3	57.7	62.1	60.8
South Atlantic	56.9	57.9	57.2	58.2	60.2	60.4	60.3	60.9
East South Central	59.1	61.6	61.4	58.2	60.6	62.1	60.1	62.8
West South Central	59.9	59.6	60.1	59.2	61.9	58.7	60.7	61.3
Mountain	57.1	58.2	56.2	57.8	59.1	60.4	58.9	57.7
Pacific	56.4	55.2	55.5	56.8	55.5	57.1	57.6	56.9
Type of Practice								
Solo	57.0	57.4	57.4	57.7	59.0	59.0	59.0	59.1
Non-solo	58.0	57.5	56.8	57.6	57.9	57.7	58.7	58.7
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	59.6	60.2	59.1	60.5	62.3	61.0	62.6	62.3
Metropolitan—								
Less than 1,000,000	58.1	58.1	57.5	58.0	59.6	58.7	59.2	59.2
1,000,000 and over	56.7	56.4	56.3	56.8	56.4	57.2	57.7	57.8
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	59.0	60.6	58.0	60.1	60.5	59.7	59.5	60.2
36-45 years	58.9	58.7	58.0	58.9	60.2	60.3	60.5	60.6
46-55 years	58.7	58.1	58.0	57.6	59.1	58.4	59.8	59.3
56-65 years	56.4	55.9	56.9	56.5	56.1	56.9	56.6	56.9
66 or more years	47.8	48.9	48.7	51.4	49.3	49.7	52.6	51.0

Source: 1983-1990, AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core surveys. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. Data, other than in the specialty breakdown, include physicians in all specialties. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. This will cause figures to differ from those reported in previous editions of this volume. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

Table 5 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Hours in Professional Activities per Week, 1983-1990**[a]

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All Physicians	0.28	0.28	0.26	0.28	0.28	0.27	0.27	0.28
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	0.72	0.73	0.68	0.75	0.74	0.68	0.68	0.72
Internal Medicine	0.73	0.73	0.74	0.71	0.72	0.68	0.68	0.71
Surgery	0.55	0.61	0.58	0.67	0.57	0.62	0.58	0.55
Pediatrics	1.07	1.00	0.95	1.00	1.04	0.90	0.84	1.05
Obstetrics/Gynecology	1.10	1.03	1.10	1.12	1.07	1.00	1.12	1.23
Radiology	1.08	0.96	0.85	0.89	1.02	0.84	0.97	1.07
Psychiatry	0.88	0.90	0.83	0.87	0.91	0.87	0.95	0.96
Anesthesiology	1.22	1.21	0.88	1.10	1.09	1.16	1.34	1.04
Census Division								
New England	1.03	1.11	1.06	1.06	1.15	1.02	1.04	1.11
Middle Atlantic	0.73	0.72	0.66	0.71	0.68	0.69	0.69	0.69
East North Central	0.72	0.74	0.67	0.71	0.68	0.62	0.64	0.67
West North Central	0.98	1.07	0.98	1.01	0.99	0.92	1.11	1.13
South Atlantic	0.64	0.65	0.60	0.72	0.71	0.67	0.64	0.68
East South Central	1.27	1.23	1.20	1.31	1.20	1.36	1.06	1.24
West South Central	0.92	0.81	0.88	0.84	1.03	0.89	0.93	0.86
Mountain	1.14	1.33	1.06	1.15	1.02	1.20	1.23	1.41
Pacific	0.68	0.69	0.61	0.69	0.64	0.69	0.70	0.64
Type of Practice								
Solo	0.44	0.44	0.43	0.46	0.48	0.49	0.49	0.49
Non-solo	0.36	0.37	0.32	0.36	0.35	0.33	0.33	0.34
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	0.84	0.87	0.79	0.94	0.91	0.93	0.96	0.88
Metropolitan—								
Less than 1,000,000	0.42	0.43	0.41	0.43	0.44	0.42	0.41	0.42
1,000,000 and over	0.41	0.41	0.38	0.41	0.39	0.39	0.39	0.41
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	0.85	0.83	0.74	0.86	0.86	0.76	0.76	0.87
36-45 years	0.48	0.49	0.43	0.44	0.49	0.47	0.46	0.44
46-55 years	0.56	0.57	0.54	0.56	0.56	0.54	0.52	0.57
56-65 years	0.59	0.59	0.58	0.69	0.59	0.61	0.63	0.62
66 or more years	0.84	0.92	0.88	0.97	0.85	0.90	1.00	1.01

Table 6. **Mean Number of Hours in Patient Care Activities per Week, 1989**[a]

		Specialty								
	All Physicians[b]	GP/FP	Int Med	Surg	Ped	Ob/Gyn	Rad	Psych	Anes	Path
All Physicians	53.3	54.4	56.8	53.3	53.4	59.0	53.9	43.7	56.7	42.6
Census Division										
New England	50.1	50.4	53.8	48.1	45.7	.	.	46.4	.	.
Middle Atlantic	52.1	49.9	57.3	51.3	51.1	61.5	48.7	43.7	54.4	.
East North Central	52.2	54.9	56.3	52.3	50.9	55.0	51.1	42.7	57.7	37.1
West North Central	56.5	59.8	59.7	55.9	.	.	.	.	.	.
South Atlantic	55.1	53.8	57.7	54.6	59.2	59.1	55.8	46.4	60.5	.
East South Central	55.8	59.6	58.2	55.8	.	.	.	.	.	.
West South Central	55.9	57.5	58.3	56.4	52.6	60.7	59.2	.	.	.
Mountain	54.1	56.6	60.5	50.7	.	.	.	.	.	.
Pacific	51.5	50.5	53.9	54.0	53.3	57.2	50.6	40.5	54.1	.
Type of Practice										
Solo	53.7	54.6	57.2	52.5	54.6	59.7	.	46.6	51.7	.
Non-solo	53.1	54.2	56.5	53.9	52.9	58.5	54.0	40.4	58.4	42.3
Location										
Nonmetropolitan	58.4	60.1	58.7	61.3	.	.	53.4	.	.	.
Metropolitan—										
Less than 1,000,000	54.5	53.8	59.1	53.7	53.3	59.4	55.9	46.9	60.0	44.2
1,000,000 and over	51.3	51.0	54.8	51.3	52.9	58.3	51.6	41.9	54.4	40.7
Employment Status										
Self-employed	55.4	55.4	59.1	54.2	55.3	59.6	55.8	46.9	57.6	41.9
Employee	48.4	51.1	50.0	48.8	50.1	56.4	51.5	38.2	55.1	43.1
Physician Age										
Less than 36 years	54.4	55.6	56.7	57.4	52.0	60.0	56.9	.	61.1	.
36-45 years	54.9	56.3	58.2	56.1	53.8	60.3	55.2	44.2	58.1	42.6
46-55 years	54.1	57.5	56.3	54.2	54.7	61.3	53.2	44.1	56.7	44.2
56-65 years	51.6	53.1	55.4	50.3	51.6	56.2	52.5	44.4	52.8	44.8
66 or more years	47.2	47.3	52.3	44.9	.	.	.	41.2	.	.

Source: 1989 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 6 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Hours in Patient Care Activities per Week, 1989**[a]

		Specialty								
	All Physicians[b]	GP/FP	Int Med	Surg	Ped	Ob/Gyn	Rad	Psych	Anes	Path
All Physicians	0.27	0.67	0.68	0.58	0.83	1.15	0.92	0.94	1.31	1.21
Census Division										
New England	1.08	3.07	2.28	2.34	2.93	.	.	3.22	.	.
Middle Atlantic	0.68	2.33	1.54	1.42	1.73	3.03	1.74	1.91	2.68	.
East North Central	0.64	1.47	1.69	1.31	2.01	2.37	1.60	2.74	3.16	2.29
West North Central	1.14	2.04	2.96	2.34	.	.	.	.	.	.
South Atlantic	0.64	1.19	1.64	1.47	1.86	2.69	1.85	1.86	2.60	.
East South Central	1.05	2.53	3.02	2.20	.	.	.	.	.	.
West South Central	0.91	2.36	2.14	1.72	2.24	3.89	2.62	.	.	.
Mountain	1.22	2.80	4.20	2.40	.	.	.	.	.	.
Pacific	0.71	1.71	1.71	1.51	2.36	3.15	1.86	2.07	5.20	.
Type of Practice										
Solo	0.47	1.03	1.12	0.89	1.56	1.95	.	1.29	2.49	.
Non-solo	0.34	0.88	0.86	0.75	0.98	1.37	0.95	1.30	1.52	1.30
Location										
Nonmetropolitan	0.94	1.38	2.53	2.32	.	.	2.18	.	.	.
Metropolitan—										
Less than 1,000,000	0.41	0.97	1.04	0.82	1.21	1.66	1.50	1.61	1.84	1.75
1,000,000 and over	0.40	1.16	0.96	0.85	1.18	1.61	1.22	1.16	1.86	1.86
Employment Status										
Self-employed	0.33	0.76	0.76	0.64	0.98	1.24	1.24	1.17	1.64	1.95
Employee	0.48	1.39	1.38	1.26	1.45	2.95	1.35	1.37	2.17	1.56
Physician Age										
Less than 36 years	0.77	1.52	1.77	1.92	2.50	3.45	1.69	.	3.00	.
36-45 years	0.47	1.00	1.03	1.19	1.30	2.12	1.82	2.32	2.31	2.34
46-55 years	0.52	1.72	1.51	0.94	1.62	1.96	1.50	1.62	2.12	2.08
56-65 years	0.62	1.59	1.71	1.19	1.69	2.49	2.02	1.72	3.37	2.12
66 or more years	0.94	1.94	2.58	1.72	.	.	.	2.34	.	.

Table 7. **Mean Number of Hours in Patient Care Activities per Week, 1990**[a]

		Specialty								
	All Physicians[b]	GP/FP	Int Med	Surg	Ped	Ob/Gyn	Rad	Psych	Anes	Path
All Physicians	53.3	55.0	55.7	53.1	52.4	60.4	53.3	43.6	58.3	44.3
Census Division										
New England	48.9	49.0	50.3	50.1	45.8	.	.	.	.	.
Middle Atlantic	50.8	50.0	53.2	53.0	48.6	55.3	49.3	39.9	58.6	.
East North Central	53.2	55.3	55.0	51.7	55.5	62.1	58.0	45.0	56.2	.
West North Central	55.9	59.7	56.8	53.6	.	.	.	.	.	.
South Atlantic	55.3	55.9	60.6	53.6	56.1	62.3	53.1	48.3	56.3	.
East South Central	58.5	60.0	59.4	60.0	.	.	.	.	.	.
West South Central	56.0	60.0	59.2	53.0	54.6	63.5	56.2	44.0	60.7	.
Mountain	52.6	56.0	54.0	51.7	.	57.9	.	.	.	.
Pacific	51.5	50.5	53.7	52.6	50.5	60.5	49.8	40.6	57.7	.
Type of Practice										
Solo	53.7	55.3	55.9	52.4	54.4	62.3	.	46.7	54.7	.
Non-solo	53.1	54.8	55.5	53.7	51.6	59.4	53.4	41.1	59.2	44.7
Location										
Nonmetropolitan	58.1	61.2	55.3	56.7	60.2	61.3	54.9	.	.	.
Metropolitan—										
Less than 1,000,000	54.0	53.7	57.3	54.4	53.6	59.7	55.2	44.9	59.7	42.8
1,000,000 and over	51.8	52.5	54.3	51.1	50.0	60.9	51.5	42.7	56.8	45.3
Employment Status										
Self-employed	55.4	56.9	57.6	53.7	55.7	62.6	55.1	47.0	59.7	40.8
Employee	49.0	50.2	50.4	50.5	46.9	54.3	51.3	38.9	56.5	46.7
Physician Age										
Less than 36 years	55.1	54.8	59.2	54.0	56.7	56.9	60.3	.	56.7	.
36-45 years	54.9	56.4	57.8	56.1	51.1	64.3	53.1	42.2	60.3	46.4
46-55 years	53.9	57.6	55.6	53.5	51.8	61.1	53.4	47.5	56.5	43.2
56-65 years	51.3	53.9	51.9	50.0	53.3	57.4	53.2	42.7	57.6	44.6
66 or more years	46.1	49.3	43.7	45.6	.	52.3	.	39.6	.	.

Source: 1990 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 7 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Hours in Patient Care Activities per Week, 1990**[a]

		Specialty							
	All Physicians[b]	GP/FP	Int Med	Surg	Ped	Ob/Gyn	Rad	Psych	Anes	Path
All Physicians	0.27	0.69	0.69	0.52	1.02	1.18	1.03	0.97	1.13	1.26
Census Division										
New England	1.16	3.05	2.96	2.43	2.88	.	.	.	.	.
Middle Atlantic	0.67	2.02	1.48	1.45	2.25	2.94	2.21	1.83	2.78	.
East North Central	0.66	1.71	1.42	1.19	3.46	2.90	2.51	2.25	2.42	.
West North Central	1.11	1.92	3.69	2.12	.	.	.	.	.	.
South Atlantic	0.65	1.54	1.71	1.20	2.09	2.81	2.55	2.72	2.22	.
East South Central	1.21	2.48	3.53	2.26	.	.	.	.	.	.
West South Central	0.85	2.04	2.24	1.31	3.47	4.08	3.52	3.15	2.60	.
Mountain	1.37	3.76	3.62	2.80	.	3.53	.	.	.	.
Pacific	0.63	1.62	1.41	1.28	2.31	2.71	2.00	2.11	2.64	.
Type of Practice										
Solo	0.47	1.04	1.08	0.84	1.92	1.99	.	1.59	2.11	.
Non-solo	0.34	0.92	0.89	0.67	1.20	1.46	1.07	1.13	1.31	1.27
Location										
Nonmetropolitan	0.86	1.35	2.52	1.91	3.61	3.46	3.69	.	.	.
Metropolitan—										
Less than 1,000,000	0.41	1.02	1.04	0.74	1.71	1.72	1.63	1.73	1.65	1.82
1,000,000 and over	0.40	1.21	0.97	0.78	1.30	1.78	1.39	1.16	1.61	1.86
Employment Status										
Self-employed	0.33	0.79	0.79	0.57	1.27	1.35	1.24	1.34	1.36	1.82
Employee	0.48	1.34	1.30	1.29	1.58	2.27	1.69	1.21	1.91	1.68
Physician Age										
Less than 36 years	0.85	2.05	1.67	2.61	3.74	2.66	2.94	.	2.61	.
36-45 years	0.44	1.09	1.01	0.89	1.61	1.92	1.71	1.56	1.61	2.31
46-55 years	0.54	1.71	1.49	0.92	1.97	2.47	1.83	2.11	2.00	1.95
56-65 years	0.62	1.45	1.81	1.03	2.36	2.02	2.49	1.89	3.82	2.85
66 or more years	0.98	2.04	2.35	1.80	.	6.66	.	2.23	.	.

Table 8. **Mean Number of Hours in Patient Care Activities per Week, 1983-1990**[a]

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All Physicians	51.8	51.5	51.3	52.2	52.9	53.1	53.3	53.3
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	54.6	53.3	53.6	53.3	53.7	54.4	54.4	55.0
Internal Medicine	53.4	53.0	52.4	54.0	56.0	56.2	56.8	55.7
Surgery	50.7	51.5	51.2	52.6	53.0	53.8	53.3	53.1
Pediatrics	52.3	51.1	50.6	52.4	53.6	52.5	53.4	52.4
Obstetrics/Gynecology	55.8	55.7	56.9	59.0	57.0	59.4	59.0	60.4
Radiology	53.8	50.5	51.5	51.6	51.4	52.3	53.9	53.3
Psychiatry	44.0	45.2	45.1	43.0	43.9	43.3	43.7	43.6
Anesthesiology	59.5	54.9	53.5	55.0	54.0	52.5	56.7	58.3
Census Division								
New England	49.3	49.3	49.4	51.4	51.7	50.3	50.1	48.9
Middle Atlantic	50.4	50.4	49.8	50.9	49.8	50.6	52.1	50.8
East North Central	53.0	51.5	50.8	52.4	52.7	52.9	52.2	53.2
West North Central	52.8	50.9	51.9	52.3	55.0	53.2	56.5	55.9
South Atlantic	51.2	52.3	51.6	52.6	55.1	55.4	55.1	55.3
East South Central	54.5	56.3	56.5	52.9	55.5	57.5	55.8	58.5
West South Central	55.3	54.4	54.5	54.4	56.1	53.9	55.9	56.0
Mountain	51.5	52.7	51.3	52.3	53.6	54.9	54.1	52.6
Pacific	50.5	49.0	49.9	51.5	50.2	51.5	51.5	51.5
Type of Practice								
Solo	52.1	51.9	52.1	52.5	53.9	54.1	53.7	53.7
Non-solo	51.6	51.1	50.6	51.9	52.2	52.4	53.1	53.1
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	55.8	56.4	54.5	55.8	58.1	57.2	58.4	58.1
Metropolitan—								
Less than 1,000,000	52.8	52.1	52.0	53.0	54.2	53.7	54.5	54.0
1,000,000 and over	50.1	49.9	50.0	50.7	50.6	51.7	51.3	51.8
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	53.5	54.1	52.0	55.0	55.3	54.9	54.4	55.1
36-45 years	52.7	52.4	52.2	53.0	54.4	54.9	54.9	54.9
46-55 years	52.7	52.0	52.1	52.2	53.6	53.1	54.1	53.9
56-65 years	51.2	50.4	51.2	50.9	50.5	52.2	51.6	51.3
66 or more years	43.6	44.1	44.0	47.0	45.3	44.7	47.2	46.1

Source: 1983-1990, AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core surveys. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. Data, other than in the specialty breakdown, are based on responses from physicians in all specialties. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. This will cause figures to differ from those reported in previous editions of this volume. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

Table 8 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Hours in Patient Care Activities per Week, 1983-1990**[a]

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All Physicians	0.28	0.28	0.26	0.28	0.28	0.27	0.27	0.27
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	0.70	0.70	0.66	0.72	0.71	0.66	0.67	0.69
Internal Medicine	0.77	0.75	0.74	0.72	0.72	0.68	0.68	0.69
Surgery	0.53	0.59	0.56	0.66	0.58	0.58	0.58	0.52
Pediatrics	1.06	1.03	0.94	1.00	1.05	0.89	0.83	1.02
Obstetrics/Gynecology	1.09	1.00	1.05	1.14	1.01	0.98	1.15	1.18
Radiology	1.05	0.88	0.82	0.83	0.96	0.83	0.92	1.03
Psychiatry	0.88	0.84	0.82	0.84	0.87	0.84	0.94	0.97
Anesthesiology	1.19	1.26	0.95	1.13	1.12	1.19	1.31	1.13
Census Division								
New England	1.08	1.12	1.08	1.06	1.07	0.96	1.08	1.16
Middle Atlantic	0.74	0.73	0.67	0.70	0.68	0.68	0.68	0.67
East North Central	0.71	0.69	0.65	0.72	0.67	0.62	0.64	0.66
West North Central	0.99	1.07	0.96	1.01	1.00	0.92	1.14	1.11
South Atlantic	0.64	0.66	0.61	0.74	0.72	0.66	0.64	0.65
East South Central	1.26	1.19	1.21	1.28	1.23	1.31	1.05	1.21
West South Central	0.91	0.81	0.88	0.84	1.02	0.87	0.91	0.85
Mountain	1.26	1.31	1.04	1.16	1.01	1.20	1.22	1.37
Pacific	0.66	0.68	0.61	0.66	0.63	0.67	0.71	0.63
Type of Practice								
Solo	0.43	0.42	0.42	0.45	0.46	0.47	0.47	0.47
Non-solo	0.37	0.37	0.33	0.36	0.35	0.33	0.34	0.34
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	0.82	0.84	0.78	0.92	0.91	0.89	0.94	0.86
Metropolitan—								
Less than 1,000,000	0.42	0.43	0.41	0.43	0.44	0.42	0.41	0.41
1,000,000 and over	0.42	0.41	0.38	0.41	0.39	0.38	0.40	0.40
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	0.89	0.84	0.75	0.85	0.84	0.77	0.77	0.85
36-45 years	0.49	0.49	0.44	0.45	0.49	0.46	0.47	0.44
46-55 years	0.57	0.57	0.53	0.55	0.56	0.53	0.52	0.54
56-65 years	0.58	0.57	0.57	0.68	0.58	0.59	0.62	0.62
66 or more years	0.80	0.86	0.86	0.98	0.83	0.83	0.94	0.98

Table 9. **Mean Number of Hours in Direct Patient Care Activities per Week, 1989**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	49.3	49.8	50.6	49.3	47.4	54.6
Census Division						
New England	45.0	45.3	46.1	44.4	39.1	.
Middle Atlantic	48.0	45.3	50.8	46.9	44.9	56.6
East North Central	48.3	50.0	50.2	48.1	44.3	50.9
West North Central	52.4	56.0	53.1	51.9	.	.
South Atlantic	50.7	49.0	52.0	50.6	52.6	54.3
East South Central	52.5	56.2	51.9	52.7	.	.
West South Central	52.1	52.8	53.5	52.5	47.7	56.5
Mountain	50.6	51.0	53.5	47.5	.	.
Pacific	47.8	45.9	47.8	50.0	48.1	53.3
Type of Practice						
Solo	49.5	49.7	50.8	48.6	47.5	54.9
Non-solo	49.2	49.9	50.4	50.0	47.4	54.3
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	55.5	55.9	53.5	57.4	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	50.2	49.3	52.8	50.2	47.5	54.8
1,000,000 and over	47.1	46.0	48.4	46.8	46.8	53.7
Employment Status						
Self-employed	51.0	50.6	52.7	50.2	48.8	55.0
Employee	44.6	47.0	44.1	44.9	45.0	52.8
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	49.9	51.1	50.6	53.1	45.5	55.9
36-45 years	50.7	52.0	52.0	51.7	48.0	55.8
46-55 years	50.6	52.6	50.5	50.4	48.9	56.8
56-65 years	47.7	48.6	48.8	46.6	45.3	51.7
66 or more years	42.7	42.1	45.2	41.2	.	.

Source: 1989 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Excludes physicians in radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology, but otherwise includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 9 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Hours in Direct Patient Care Activities per Week, 1989[a]**

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	0.29	0.64	0.64	0.54	0.78	1.10
Census Division						
New England	1.09	3.09	2.08	2.25	2.81	.
Middle Atlantic	0.74	2.16	1.45	1.34	1.52	2.89
East North Central	0.68	1.37	1.61	1.26	1.86	2.39
West North Central	1.16	1.97	2.80	2.06	.	.
South Atlantic	0.69	1.18	1.60	1.34	1.70	2.60
East South Central	1.15	2.53	2.65	2.05	.	.
West South Central	0.97	2.26	2.00	1.69	2.09	3.71
Mountain	1.24	2.57	3.55	2.31	.	.
Pacific	0.73	1.58	1.58	1.42	2.32	2.94
Type of Practice						
Solo	0.47	0.96	1.03	0.83	1.44	1.85
Non-solo	0.37	0.86	0.82	0.72	0.93	1.34
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	0.96	1.35	2.32	2.10	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	0.42	0.92	0.95	0.78	1.12	1.56
1,000,000 and over	0.43	1.09	0.92	0.78	1.11	1.57
Employment Status						
Self-employed	0.33	0.72	0.71	0.60	0.90	1.20
Employee	0.56	1.35	1.34	1.25	1.42	2.80
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	0.83	1.53	1.82	1.87	2.16	3.38
36-45 years	0.48	0.96	0.97	1.07	1.24	2.06
46-55 years	0.59	1.65	1.44	0.89	1.58	1.87
56-65 years	0.67	1.50	1.50	1.16	1.49	2.33
66 or more years	0.96	1.78	2.28	1.65	.	.

Table 10. **Mean Number of Hours in Direct Patient Care Activities per Week, 1990**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	49.1	49.9	49.5	49.5	46.0	55.5
Census Division						
New England	44.2	43.7	44.2	45.8	40.1	.
Middle Atlantic	46.7	44.5	47.5	49.3	42.2	50.7
East North Central	49.0	50.2	49.4	48.3	49.6	56.9
West North Central	50.6	54.9	49.8	50.5	.	.
South Atlantic	50.8	50.9	53.8	49.9	48.4	57.0
East South Central	54.8	55.3	54.3	56.3	.	.
West South Central	51.3	53.2	52.6	49.4	47.3	57.9
Mountain	48.7	51.4	47.8	48.4	.	53.1
Pacific	47.4	45.9	47.5	48.8	45.0	56.5
Type of Practice						
Solo	49.4	49.6	50.2	48.9	47.2	56.6
Non-solo	48.9	50.1	49.2	50.0	45.6	54.9
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	54.5	56.7	50.9	53.6	54.6	57.5
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	49.7	48.7	51.4	50.8	47.4	55.0
1,000,000 and over	47.2	46.9	47.8	47.3	43.5	55.6
Employment Status						
Self-employed	50.8	51.4	51.3	50.0	49.1	57.4
Employee	44.8	45.9	44.8	46.9	40.9	50.2
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	50.2	50.7	52.8	49.9	50.1	51.8
36-45 years	50.4	51.3	51.4	52.4	44.3	59.7
46-55 years	49.8	52.2	49.2	50.0	45.9	55.4
56-65 years	47.4	49.3	46.5	46.5	47.3	52.6
66 or more years	41.9	42.7	39.0	41.4	.	48.1

Source: 1990 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Excludes physicians in radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology, but otherwise includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 10 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Hours in Direct Patient Care Activities per Week, 1990**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	0.29	0.64	0.63	0.50	0.94	1.11
Census Division						
New England	1.31	3.08	2.76	2.45	2.64	.
Middle Atlantic	0.72	1.89	1.39	1.41	1.88	2.83
East North Central	0.69	1.55	1.39	1.09	3.12	2.78
West North Central	1.10	1.70	3.02	2.16	.	.
South Atlantic	0.67	1.47	1.44	1.17	1.79	2.61
East South Central	1.26	2.24	3.40	2.14	.	.
West South Central	0.91	2.00	2.15	1.21	3.74	3.59
Mountain	1.31	3.47	2.98	2.62	.	3.70
Pacific	0.66	1.51	1.35	1.22	2.00	2.60
Type of Practice						
Solo	0.47	0.99	1.02	0.81	1.64	1.87
Non-solo	0.37	0.84	0.80	0.64	1.13	1.39
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	0.89	1.34	2.40	1.83	3.31	3.27
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	0.43	0.93	0.98	0.71	1.60	1.58
1,000,000 and over	0.43	1.08	0.86	0.75	1.14	1.71
Employment Status						
Self-employed	0.33	0.74	0.72	0.55	1.13	1.27
Employee	0.54	1.22	1.21	1.21	1.53	2.20
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	0.89	2.02	1.67	2.33	2.94	2.30
36-45 years	0.47	1.00	0.96	0.85	1.54	1.87
46-55 years	0.57	1.59	1.27	0.89	1.73	2.27
56-65 years	0.65	1.33	1.63	1.01	2.24	1.96
66 or more years	1.02	1.83	2.13	1.72	.	6.18

Table 11. **Mean Number of Hours in Direct Patient Care Activities per Week, 1983-1990**[a]

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All Physicians	48.0	47.6	47.4	48.5	49.3	49.5	49.3	49.1
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	50.2	49.1	49.0	48.9	49.1	49.8	49.8	49.9
Internal Medicine	48.0	47.2	46.7	48.2	50.2	50.2	50.6	49.5
Surgery	47.4	48.1	48.0	49.2	49.6	50.2	49.3	49.5
Pediatrics	46.2	45.0	44.6	46.0	47.2	46.5	47.4	46.0
Obstetrics/Gynecology	51.4	50.8	52.6	54.4	53.0	55.2	54.6	55.5
Census Division								
New England	45.1	45.2	44.6	46.3	47.3	45.8	45.0	44.2
Middle Atlantic	46.2	46.3	45.6	46.2	45.5	46.6	48.0	46.7
East North Central	48.9	46.6	46.2	49.0	49.4	49.6	48.3	49.0
West North Central	49.6	47.8	47.4	48.0	51.9	49.2	52.4	50.6
South Atlantic	47.5	48.7	47.9	49.2	51.4	51.6	50.7	50.8
East South Central	51.6	52.9	52.9	50.3	52.2	54.0	52.5	54.8
West South Central	51.6	51.1	50.7	50.9	53.2	50.1	52.1	51.3
Mountain	47.8	48.7	48.2	48.6	50.3	53.2	50.6	48.7
Pacific	46.2	45.2	46.4	48.0	46.7	48.2	47.8	47.4
Type of Practice								
Solo	48.3	47.9	48.3	48.8	50.3	50.5	49.5	49.4
Non-solo	47.7	47.4	46.5	48.1	48.6	48.8	49.2	48.9
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	53.0	53.8	51.4	52.9	54.8	54.0	55.5	54.5
Metropolitan—								
Less than 1,000,000	48.9	48.4	48.2	49.3	50.7	50.2	50.2	49.7
1,000,000 and over	45.7	45.5	45.7	46.6	46.8	47.8	47.1	47.2
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	50.1	50.3	47.7	51.2	51.8	50.7	49.9	50.2
36-45 years	48.7	48.6	48.4	49.2	50.9	51.0	50.7	50.4
46-55 years	48.8	48.5	48.1	48.4	49.9	50.0	50.6	49.8
56-65 years	47.5	46.3	47.2	47.4	46.9	49.0	47.7	47.4
66 or more years	39.8	39.8	40.5	43.4	42.0	41.0	42.7	41.9

Source: 1983-1990, AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core surveys. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. Data, other than in the specialty breakdown, include physicians in all specialties except radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. This will cause figures to differ from those reported in previous editions of this volume. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

Table 11 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Hours in Direct Patient Care Activities per Week, 1983-1990**[a]

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All[1] Physicians	0.30	0.31	0.29	0.31	0.31	0.29	0.29	0.29
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	0.65	0.66	0.60	0.67	0.65	0.63	0.64	0.64
Internal Medicine	0.72	0.71	0.69	0.68	0.67	0.64	0.64	0.63
Surgery	0.50	0.56	0.53	0.61	0.55	0.54	0.54	0.50
Pediatrics	0.99	0.96	0.85	0.88	0.96	0.81	0.78	0.94
Obstetrics/Gynecology	1.03	0.91	0.98	1.06	0.98	0.95	1.10	1.11
Census Division								
New England	1.07	1.36	1.23	1.19	1.15	1.13	1.09	1.31
Middle Atlantic	0.83	0.84	0.75	0.77	0.74	0.75	0.74	0.72
East North Central	0.76	0.77	0.73	0.80	0.76	0.70	0.68	0.69
West North Central	1.08	1.09	1.10	1.17	1.09	0.93	1.16	1.10
South Atlantic	0.67	0.75	0.65	0.82	0.76	0.70	0.69	0.67
East South Central	1.32	1.19	1.29	1.35	1.40	1.45	1.15	1.26
West South Central	0.90	0.86	0.92	0.88	1.09	0.86	0.97	0.91
Mountain	1.40	1.35	1.13	1.24	1.14	1.35	1.24	1.31
Pacific	0.69	0.73	0.67	0.71	0.65	0.71	0.73	0.66
Type of Practice								
Solo	0.44	0.45	0.44	0.46	0.48	0.48	0.47	0.47
Non-solo	0.41	0.43	0.38	0.42	0.40	0.37	0.37	0.37
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	0.81	0.82	0.81	0.93	0.91	0.91	0.96	0.89
Metropolitan—								
Less than 1,000,000	0.45	0.46	0.44	0.46	0.49	0.45	0.42	0.43
1,000,000 and over	0.45	0.47	0.42	0.46	0.42	0.42	0.43	0.43
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	0.96	0.86	0.79	0.94	0.86	0.81	0.83	0.89
36-45 years	0.53	0.56	0.48	0.49	0.53	0.49	0.48	0.47
46-55 years	0.62	0.64	0.61	0.62	0.63	0.60	0.59	0.57
56-65 years	0.58	0.62	0.64	0.77	0.65	0.65	0.67	0.65
66 or more years	0.82	0.90	0.89	0.99	0.89	0.85	0.96	1.02

Table 12. **Mean Number of Office Hours per Week, 1989**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	26.9	34.8	26.8	22.7	31.8	29.2
Census Division						
New England	23.3	29.7	23.6	19.1	27.2	.
Middle Atlantic	25.6	29.9	26.7	20.4	33.9	30.1
East North Central	25.2	33.5	26.0	21.7	26.6	27.2
West North Central	28.7	37.6	26.0	23.7	.	.
South Atlantic	27.7	36.3	27.0	23.4	34.6	29.7
East South Central	27.2	37.3	28.6	22.6	.	.
West South Central	29.5	37.8	27.7	23.8	31.2	32.6
Mountain	27.7	37.3	27.4	24.6	.	.
Pacific	27.9	33.8	29.0	25.5	31.1	26.7
Type of Practice						
Solo	30.2	35.5	29.8	24.5	36.8	31.5
Non-solo	24.6	34.2	25.0	21.3	29.6	27.4
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	30.9	35.9	30.9	24.3	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	26.5	34.2	27.0	23.3	32.1	28.9
1,000,000 and over	26.3	34.9	26.3	21.8	30.8	29.3
Employment Status						
Self-employed	29.5	35.6	29.2	23.5	37.9	30.9
Employee	19.7	32.2	19.9	19.2	21.4	21.7
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	27.2	34.7	28.1	24.6	25.1	27.5
36-45 years	26.1	36.1	25.0	23.9	30.2	29.1
46-55 years	26.6	35.9	26.6	22.8	34.1	30.7
56-65 years	28.2	34.2	30.6	21.2	35.0	27.7
66 or more years	27.8	31.5	30.4	21.4	.	.

Source: 1989 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Excludes physicians in radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology, but otherwise includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 12 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Office Hours per Week, 1989**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	0.26	0.48	0.53	0.41	0.85	0.70
Census Division						
New England	0.97	2.27	1.89	1.20	3.35	.
Middle Atlantic	0.63	1.64	1.19	0.93	1.69	1.74
East North Central	0.61	1.05	1.22	0.97	2.14	1.80
West North Central	1.06	1.27	2.57	1.77	.	.
South Atlantic	0.63	1.14	1.30	0.92	2.13	1.55
East South Central	1.12	1.90	2.65	1.35	.	.
West South Central	0.76	1.43	1.67	1.18	2.41	1.89
Mountain	1.23	1.76	2.73	1.97	.	.
Pacific	0.67	1.15	1.33	1.26	2.05	1.81
Type of Practice						
Solo	0.35	0.66	0.76	0.60	1.08	1.09
Non-solo	0.35	0.69	0.71	0.54	1.08	0.90
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	0.80	0.88	2.38	1.51	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	0.38	0.79	0.76	0.54	1.18	1.02
1,000,000 and over	0.39	0.79	0.77	0.66	1.25	1.02
Employment Status						
Self-employed	0.26	0.49	0.54	0.43	0.75	0.70
Employee	0.58	1.22	1.25	1.09	1.54	1.97
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	0.79	1.12	1.84	1.33	3.06	1.71
36-45 years	0.44	0.81	0.80	0.78	1.34	1.32
46-55 years	0.53	1.32	1.09	0.75	1.89	1.24
56-65 years	0.54	0.98	1.28	0.80	1.19	1.45
66 or more years	0.79	1.33	1.75	1.22	.	.

Table 13. **Mean Number of Office Hours per Week, 1990**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	27.1	35.1	27.1	23.2	31.9	29.2
Census Division						
New England	24.8	34.0	23.7	27.0	28.9	.
Middle Atlantic	24.4	30.8	24.2	21.6	31.3	26.2
East North Central	26.7	33.4	27.9	21.4	32.7	27.6
West North Central	27.8	36.6	26.7	20.9	.	.
South Atlantic	28.8	38.2	29.6	24.7	31.2	28.6
East South Central	28.4	37.2	28.6	25.6	.	.
West South Central	27.9	37.4	25.4	23.0	37.5	33.4
Mountain	27.1	38.7	28.4	22.2	.	30.3
Pacific	27.9	33.1	28.8	24.4	29.7	31.5
Type of Practice						
Solo	30.3	35.9	29.7	25.5	37.2	32.3
Non-solo	25.0	34.5	25.6	21.4	29.9	27.5
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	31.7	37.5	29.7	25.3	38.5	30.2
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	26.5	34.8	26.1	23.8	32.0	29.7
1,000,000 and over	26.5	34.0	27.7	22.2	30.7	28.7
Employment Status						
Self-employed	29.5	36.9	28.9	24.0	37.7	31.4
Employee	20.9	30.6	22.4	19.1	22.3	22.8
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	27.5	35.5	26.6	24.3	33.4	26.4
36-45 years	26.4	35.4	27.2	22.9	29.9	28.7
46-55 years	26.2	36.4	26.6	22.2	30.3	29.6
56-65 years	29.2	36.2	28.4	24.4	36.5	30.1
66 or more years	27.9	30.5	26.8	25.1	.	31.3

Source: 1990 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Excludes physicians in radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology, but otherwise includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 13 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Office Hours per Week, 1990[a]**

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	0.27	0.54	0.54	0.40	0.95	0.73
Census Division						
New England	1.16	2.25	1.97	2.29	3.10	.
Middle Atlantic	0.66	2.01	1.21	0.99	1.86	2.07
East North Central	0.65	1.39	1.27	0.94	2.73	1.86
West North Central	1.06	1.42	3.08	1.44	.	.
South Atlantic	0.64	1.18	1.23	1.06	2.23	1.39
East South Central	1.09	1.76	2.22	1.45	.	.
West South Central	0.83	1.41	1.51	1.08	3.44	2.14
Mountain	1.27	1.76	2.92	1.76	.	2.76
Pacific	0.65	1.31	1.30	0.97	2.31	1.45
Type of Practice						
Solo	0.37	0.68	0.79	0.62	1.35	1.08
Non-solo	0.36	0.80	0.70	0.52	1.16	0.95
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	0.78	1.12	2.11	1.07	2.60	1.74
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	0.40	0.77	0.78	0.58	1.54	1.11
1,000,000 and over	0.40	0.97	0.78	0.63	1.30	1.10
Employment Status						
Self-employed	0.28	0.51	0.57	0.42	0.88	0.73
Employee	0.59	1.36	1.17	1.13	1.71	1.70
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	0.93	1.96	1.56	1.69	3.34	2.22
36-45 years	0.44	0.85	0.82	0.71	1.45	1.15
46-55 years	0.53	1.38	1.10	0.66	1.99	1.42
56-65 years	0.60	1.02	1.42	0.95	1.80	1.60
66 or more years	0.87	1.40	1.95	1.48	.	3.30

Table 14. **Mean Number of Office Hours per Week, 1983-1990**[a]

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All Physicians	26.3	24.9	25.3	26.2	26.8	26.7	26.9	27.1
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	33.2	32.4	32.9	33.9	34.2	34.3	34.8	35.1
Internal Medicine	25.6	24.2	24.8	25.8	27.0	27.3	26.8	27.1
Surgery	21.6	21.2	21.9	22.1	23.2	22.0	22.7	23.2
Pediatrics	32.3	29.4	29.1	31.4	30.8	31.3	31.8	31.9
Obstetrics/Gynecology	27.5	25.9	28.4	28.1	28.1	29.3	29.2	29.2
Census Division								
New England	25.1	24.2	23.7	25.0	26.2	26.0	23.3	24.8
Middle Atlantic	23.3	22.8	23.5	24.3	23.8	23.8	25.6	24.4
East North Central	25.1	22.7	23.9	24.5	25.0	25.7	25.2	26.7
West North Central	27.5	24.9	26.1	27.0	27.8	27.2	28.7	27.8
South Atlantic	26.8	26.2	26.3	26.4	27.7	28.1	27.7	28.8
East South Central	28.9	28.7	28.6	27.6	28.2	28.2	27.2	28.4
West South Central	28.8	26.3	26.6	28.4	30.6	29.2	29.5	27.9
Mountain	26.7	26.5	25.5	27.1	27.4	27.5	27.7	27.1
Pacific	27.1	25.3	26.0	27.9	27.2	27.2	27.9	27.9
Type of Practice								
Solo	28.0	27.0	28.0	28.6	29.9	29.5	30.2	30.3
Non-solo	24.9	23.0	23.0	24.4	24.5	24.8	24.6	25.0
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	30.2	29.8	28.9	30.2	30.8	30.7	30.9	31.7
Metropolitan—								
Less than 1,000,000	26.5	24.9	25.6	26.4	27.1	26.6	26.5	26.5
1,000,000 and over	25.2	23.8	24.3	25.2	25.6	26.0	26.3	26.5
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	26.0	24.9	22.9	26.5	25.7	26.2	27.2	27.5
36-45 years	25.1	23.1	24.1	25.1	26.0	25.8	26.1	26.4
46-55 years	27.2	26.0	25.9	26.4	26.9	26.5	26.6	26.2
56-65 years	28.0	27.2	27.9	28.3	28.9	28.7	28.2	29.2
66 or more years	26.2	24.6	26.6	26.2	26.6	27.2	27.8	27.9

Source: 1983-1990, AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core surveys. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. Data, other than in the specialty breakdown, include physicians in all specialties except radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. This will cause figures to differ from those reported in previous editions of this volume. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

Table 14 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Office Hours per Week, 1983-1990**[a]

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All Physicians	0.25	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.27	0.26	0.26	0.27
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	0.47	0.46	0.45	0.48	0.51	0.49	0.48	0.54
Internal Medicine	0.56	0.57	0.61	0.57	0.51	0.52	0.53	0.54
Surgery	0.41	0.41	0.44	0.42	0.44	0.41	0.41	0.40
Pediatrics	0.78	0.83	0.85	0.87	0.98	0.88	0.85	0.95
Obstetrics/Gynecology	0.57	0.60	0.59	0.64	0.55	0.60	0.70	0.73
Census Division								
New England	0.96	1.19	1.23	1.13	1.09	1.06	0.97	1.16
Middle Atlantic	0.68	0.67	0.63	0.64	0.64	0.62	0.63	0.66
East North Central	0.61	0.61	0.64	0.66	0.67	0.64	0.61	0.65
West North Central	0.89	0.93	0.95	1.00	0.88	0.87	1.06	1.06
South Atlantic	0.62	0.60	0.60	0.67	0.66	0.62	0.63	0.64
East South Central	1.07	1.09	1.21	1.08	1.12	1.14	1.12	1.09
West South Central	0.78	0.79	0.83	0.80	0.85	0.78	0.76	0.83
Mountain	1.16	1.23	1.22	1.11	1.15	1.19	1.23	1.27
Pacific	0.61	0.63	0.66	0.63	0.64	0.73	0.67	0.65
Type of Practice								
Solo	0.34	0.33	0.34	0.35	0.36	0.36	0.35	0.37
Non-solo	0.37	0.39	0.38	0.38	0.37	0.36	0.35	0.36
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	0.63	0.64	0.66	0.69	0.69	0.78	0.80	0.78
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	0.40	0.40	0.42	0.41	0.41	0.39	0.38	0.40
1,000,000 and over	0.38	0.39	0.38	0.39	0.39	0.39	0.39	0.40
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	0.82	0.81	0.80	0.86	0.87	0.76	0.79	0.93
36-45 years	0.48	0.47	0.45	0.43	0.46	0.46	0.44	0.44
46-55 years	0.53	0.54	0.53	0.53	0.56	0.53	0.53	0.53
56-65 years	0.47	0.51	0.60	0.62	0.56	0.58	0.54	0.60
66 or more years	0.65	0.66	0.65	0.75	0.70	0.70	0.79	0.87

Table 15. **Mean Number of Hours on Hospital Rounds per Week, 1989**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General & Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	9.2	6.6	15.7	7.2	9.5	5.9
Census Division						
New England	7.9	6.0	11.6	7.0	6.1	.
Middle Atlantic	10.5	8.2	16.5	8.8	7.0	5.9
East North Central	9.4	7.4	17.0	6.5	11.6	5.6
West North Central	10.4	8.8	19.6	7.5	.	.
South Atlantic	9.7	6.4	15.6	7.4	13.0	5.8
East South Central	8.7	7.8	15.7	7.1	.	.
West South Central	9.3	5.8	17.5	8.0	10.6	6.6
Mountain	8.4	4.5	19.0	5.4	.	.
Pacific	7.0	4.6	12.4	6.0	8.1	4.8
Type of Practice						
Solo	8.9	7.0	15.0	6.9	6.8	6.2
Non-solo	9.4	6.3	16.1	7.5	10.7	5.8
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	8.6	7.7	13.5	9.3	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	9.5	6.9	16.9	6.9	10.4	6.3
1,000,000 and over	9.0	5.6	15.0	7.1	9.0	5.4
Employment Status						
Self-employed	9.5	6.9	16.2	7.4	7.0	5.8
Employee	8.2	5.7	14.2	6.3	14.0	6.7
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	8.2	5.6	12.6	7.3	11.4	5.8
36-45 years	10.9	7.1	18.5	7.4	11.5	6.6
46-55 years	8.8	7.3	15.4	7.2	7.7	5.6
56-65 years	7.7	6.7	12.0	7.3	7.0	5.1
66 or more years	6.6	5.4	10.1	6.2	.	.

Source: 1989 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Excludes physicians in radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology, but otherwise includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 15 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Hours on Hospital Rounds per Week, 1989**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	0.19	0.25	0.52	0.23	0.67	0.29
Census Division						
New England	0.56	0.89	1.22	0.98	0.88	.
Middle Atlantic	0.50	1.04	1.23	0.70	0.89	0.78
East North Central	0.43	0.56	1.16	0.50	1.70	0.58
West North Central	0.73	0.67	2.41	1.00	.	.
South Atlantic	0.50	0.61	1.30	0.57	2.19	0.70
East South Central	0.63	0.85	1.76	0.92	.	.
West South Central	0.60	0.71	1.91	0.60	2.77	0.63
Mountain	0.96	0.76	3.88	0.87	.	.
Pacific	0.41	0.62	1.25	0.51	1.36	0.59
Type of Practice						
Solo	0.27	0.39	0.81	0.33	0.47	0.42
Non-solo	0.25	0.33	0.68	0.32	0.91	0.39
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	0.41	0.47	1.29	0.98	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	0.29	0.41	0.85	0.30	1.07	0.43
1,000,000 and over	0.28	0.42	0.72	0.37	0.90	0.39
Employment Status						
Self-employed	0.21	0.27	0.59	0.26	0.44	0.26
Employee	0.41	0.60	1.11	0.49	1.56	1.08
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	0.52	0.51	1.50	0.92	2.00	0.98
36-45 years	0.37	0.39	0.88	0.45	1.24	0.58
46-55 years	0.34	0.75	0.96	0.41	1.16	0.44
56-65 years	0.31	0.59	1.00	0.48	0.65	0.44
66 or more years	0.45	0.65	1.36	0.70	.	.

Table 16. **Mean Number of Hours on Hospital Rounds per Week, 1990**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General & Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	8.8	6.5	14.9	6.8	9.2	5.6
Census Division						
New England	7.4	5.0	12.7	4.4	8.0	.
Middle Atlantic	9.5	6.2	15.1	8.0	6.7	4.6
East North Central	9.0	7.1	14.9	6.9	11.8	6.5
West North Central	8.4	8.0	14.3	6.7	.	.
South Atlantic	9.6	6.9	16.2	6.5	10.8	5.5
East South Central	9.1	8.1	16.4	6.9	.	.
West South Central	9.5	7.1	19.4	7.5	7.0	6.8
Mountain	7.3	4.5	12.7	7.5	.	5.5
Pacific	7.8	4.8	12.5	6.0	10.1	4.9
Type of Practice						
Solo	8.4	6.6	13.7	6.1	6.7	6.0
Non-solo	9.1	6.4	15.6	7.4	10.1	5.4
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	8.0	8.1	11.5	7.2	9.0	6.6
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	9.2	6.1	16.5	7.2	10.2	5.4
1,000,000 and over	8.6	6.0	14.0	6.4	8.4	5.7
Employment Status						
Self-employed	9.3	7.1	15.6	6.8	7.6	5.8
Employee	7.7	4.9	13.0	7.1	11.7	5.1
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	9.1	5.2	16.1	6.7	8.1	5.8
36-45 years	9.9	6.7	16.8	7.3	10.3	6.2
46-55 years	9.2	7.8	14.5	7.2	9.5	5.8
56-65 years	7.3	6.6	12.1	6.3	6.6	4.9
66 or more years	5.2	5.3	7.3	4.6	.	4.1

Source: 1990 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Excludes physicians in radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology, but otherwise includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 16 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Hours on Hospital Rounds per Week, 1990**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	0.19	0.26	0.53	0.22	0.67	0.23
Census Division						
New England	0.87	1.45	2.34	0.67	2.32	.
Middle Atlantic	0.47	0.82	1.14	0.57	1.31	0.51
East North Central	0.43	0.57	1.33	0.53	1.94	0.61
West North Central	0.57	0.70	1.75	1.31	.	.
South Atlantic	0.48	0.65	1.38	0.46	1.97	0.47
East South Central	0.71	0.97	2.31	0.68	.	.
West South Central	0.60	0.79	1.91	0.64	2.20	0.85
Mountain	0.76	0.74	2.82	1.21	.	0.89
Pacific	0.45	0.61	1.17	0.47	1.83	0.64
Type of Practice						
Solo	0.27	0.38	0.82	0.32	0.68	0.41
Non-solo	0.25	0.34	0.68	0.29	0.87	0.28
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	0.42	0.56	1.47	0.99	1.42	0.68
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	0.28	0.39	0.81	0.30	1.12	0.31
1,000,000 and over	0.28	0.41	0.75	0.32	0.93	0.36
Employment Status						
Self-employed	0.21	0.29	0.61	0.24	0.49	0.27
Employee	0.38	0.52	1.03	0.48	1.59	0.46
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	0.60	0.56	1.53	0.85	1.50	0.67
36-45 years	0.33	0.41	0.83	0.36	1.26	0.44
46-55 years	0.37	0.65	1.07	0.42	1.29	0.48
56-65 years	0.34	0.60	1.29	0.46	0.83	0.38
66 or more years	0.41	0.67	1.29	0.58	.	0.80

Table 17. **Mean Number of Hours on Hospital Rounds per Week, 1983-1990**[a]

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All Physicians	10.0	8.5	8.3	8.8	8.8	9.0	9.2	8.8
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	8.5	6.7	6.7	6.4	6.3	6.6	6.6	6.5
Internal Medicine	16.1	13.3	13.4	14.4	14.7	14.4	15.7	14.9
Surgery	9.1	8.1	7.2	7.8	7.7	8.1	7.2	6.8
Pediatrics	9.5	7.6	7.9	8.7	9.1	8.5	9.5	9.2
Obstetrics/Gynecology	6.5	6.4	5.5	6.4	5.5	6.3	5.9	5.6
Census Division								
New England	9.7	7.1	7.5	7.7	8.0	7.6	7.9	7.4
Middle Atlantic	10.5	9.0	9.6	9.7	9.4	10.2	10.5	9.5
East North Central	12.1	9.0	9.3	10.4	9.8	9.7	9.4	9.0
West North Central	10.8	9.1	7.8	8.3	9.3	9.4	10.4	8.4
South Atlantic	9.6	8.7	7.9	9.1	9.3	9.4	9.7	9.6
East South Central	10.9	9.3	8.9	9.0	10.2	10.1	8.7	9.1
West South Central	10.6	9.4	9.3	8.7	9.5	8.1	9.3	9.5
Mountain	8.1	7.4	7.0	7.4	6.8	7.6	8.4	7.3
Pacific	8.0	7.1	6.7	7.0	6.6	7.1	7.0	7.8
Type of Practice								
Solo	9.8	8.1	8.3	8.8	8.8	9.1	8.9	8.4
Non-solo	10.2	8.9	8.3	8.9	8.9	8.9	9.4	9.1
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	10.9	8.6	7.6	7.9	8.5	8.2	8.6	8.0
Metropolitan—								
Less than 1,000,000	10.1	8.7	8.4	9.2	9.3	8.8	9.5	9.2
1,000,000 and over	9.8	8.3	8.4	8.7	8.5	9.3	9.0	8.6
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	12.0	9.2	8.2	9.4	9.9	9.4	8.2	9.1
36-45 years	10.9	9.7	9.3	9.8	9.9	10.0	10.9	9.9
46-55 years	9.9	8.6	8.8	8.9	8.9	9.2	8.8	9.2
56-65 years	8.9	7.1	7.1	7.5	7.2	7.8	7.7	7.3
66 or more years	6.2	5.2	5.9	6.4	5.9	5.8	6.6	5.2

Source: 1983-1990, AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core surveys. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. Data, other than in the specialty breakdown, are based on responses from physicians in all specialties except radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. This will cause figures to differ from those reported in previous editions of this volume. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

Table 17 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Hours on Hospital Rounds per Week, 1983-1990**[a]

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All Physicians	0.18	0.16	0.17	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.19	0.19
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	0.27	0.25	0.26	0.26	0.25	0.28	0.25	0.26
Internal Medicine	0.53	0.49	0.52	0.50	0.47	0.48	0.52	0.53
Surgery	0.26	0.25	0.24	0.27	0.25	0.25	0.23	0.22
Pediatrics	0.67	0.41	0.51	0.55	0.60	0.62	0.67	0.67
Obstetrics/Gynecology	0.27	0.25	0.23	0.32	0.22	0.29	0.29	0.23
Census Division								
New England	0.69	0.58	0.64	0.74	0.67	0.53	0.56	0.87
Middle Atlantic	0.48	0.45	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.51	0.50	0.47
East North Central	0.55	0.41	0.44	0.53	0.45	0.42	0.43	0.43
West North Central	0.57	0.57	0.58	0.66	0.66	0.62	0.73	0.57
South Atlantic	0.42	0.41	0.35	0.45	0.45	0.42	0.50	0.48
East South Central	0.70	0.57	0.64	0.63	0.80	0.97	0.63	0.71
West South Central	0.54	0.50	0.57	0.50	0.59	0.52	0.60	0.60
Mountain	0.66	0.55	0.60	0.59	0.53	0.66	0.96	0.76
Pacific	0.42	0.39	0.37	0.36	0.35	0.43	0.41	0.45
Type of Practice								
Solo	0.25	0.21	0.24	0.26	0.25	0.27	0.27	0.27
Non-solo	0.27	0.24	0.23	0.25	0.25	0.24	0.25	0.25
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	0.44	0.39	0.38	0.40	0.45	0.42	0.41	0.42
Metropolitan—								
Less than 1,000,000	0.28	0.25	0.25	0.28	0.28	0.27	0.29	0.28
1,000,000 and over	0.28	0.25	0.26	0.27	0.26	0.27	0.28	0.28
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	0.72	0.49	0.45	0.62	0.68	0.56	0.52	0.60
36-45 years	0.34	0.33	0.31	0.32	0.33	0.32	0.37	0.33
46-55 years	0.36	0.33	0.37	0.36	0.35	0.39	0.34	0.37
56-65 years	0.30	0.25	0.30	0.33	0.28	0.31	0.31	0.34
66 or more years	0.35	0.32	0.39	0.40	0.39	0.42	0.45	0.41

Table 18. **Mean Number of Hours in Surgery per Week, 1989**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	6.2	1.6	1.4	15.0	1.6	15.8
Census Division						
New England	5.2	1.2	0.7	15.0	0.9	.
Middle Atlantic	5.5	0.4	1.6	13.8	0.6	16.3
East North Central	6.0	2.1	0.9	15.2	1.2	15.1
West North Central	6.3	2.6	2.4	15.7	.	.
South Atlantic	6.6	0.6	1.8	15.2	1.4	16.3
East South Central	6.5	0.8	1.3	18.2	.	.
West South Central	6.6	1.7	1.1	16.0	1.0	13.6
Mountain	6.4	3.0	1.9	13.8	.	.
Pacific	6.5	2.3	1.3	14.3	4.9	16.8
Type of Practice						
Solo	6.0	1.6	0.8	13.2	1.3	14.1
Non-solo	6.2	1.6	1.8	16.6	1.7	17.1
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	6.0	2.3	0.5	16.9	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	6.6	1.6	1.8	15.7	1.0	16.0
1,000,000 and over	5.8	1.0	1.2	13.9	2.1	15.4
Employment Status						
Self-employed	6.8	1.8	1.2	15.0	1.6	15.7
Employee	4.4	1.0	2.0	14.9	1.7	16.2
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	4.6	1.3	1.3	14.9	0.8	18.7
36-45 years	5.7	1.9	1.8	15.6	1.6	16.7
46-55 years	7.8	1.3	1.7	16.1	2.4	16.1
56-65 years	6.5	1.8	0.3	14.7	1.2	15.1
66 or more years	3.7	1.0	0.2	9.5	.	.

Source: 1989 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Excludes physicians in radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology, but otherwise includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 18 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Hours in Surgery per Week, 1989**[a]

	All Physicians[b]	Specialty				
		General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	0.17	0.14	0.20	0.34	0.32	0.68
Census Division						
New England	0.68	0.82	0.47	1.66	0.32	.
Middle Atlantic	0.41	0.20	0.50	0.74	0.21	1.96
East North Central	0.39	0.35	0.31	0.81	0.38	1.22
West North Central	0.65	0.41	1.44	1.28	.	.
South Atlantic	0.44	0.22	0.56	0.87	0.41	1.63
East South Central	0.78	0.39	1.20	1.45	.	.
West South Central	0.54	0.35	0.60	1.04	0.29	1.93
Mountain	0.74	0.97	1.00	1.45	.	.
Pacific	0.48	0.46	0.37	0.90	1.92	2.15
Type of Practice						
Solo	0.26	0.23	0.23	0.46	0.24	1.00
Non-solo	0.23	0.17	0.29	0.49	0.43	0.92
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	0.51	0.31	0.23	1.27	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	0.26	0.22	0.34	0.49	0.14	1.06
1,000,000 and over	0.26	0.20	0.27	0.51	0.61	0.97
Employment Status						
Self-employed	0.21	0.17	0.19	0.37	0.44	0.73
Employee	0.31	0.21	0.57	0.90	0.41	1.84
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	0.47	0.32	0.82	0.91	0.19	2.27
36-45 years	0.27	0.26	0.33	0.68	0.35	1.16
46-55 years	0.40	0.29	0.46	0.61	1.19	1.27
56-65 years	0.40	0.33	0.16	0.71	0.29	1.51
66 or more years	0.42	0.27	0.17	0.96	.	.

Table 19. **Mean Number of Hours in Surgery per Week, 1990**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	6.2	1.5	1.6	15.4	1.2	16.8
Census Division						
New England	4.6	0.4	1.0	11.3	0.7	.
Middle Atlantic	5.6	0.6	1.0	15.3	0.8	15.7
East North Central	7.0	2.4	1.5	16.5	1.6	19.3
West North Central	6.6	1.9	2.6	18.2	.	.
South Atlantic	6.3	0.1	2.3	14.4	1.2	19.5
East South Central	6.4	0.6	1.8	17.6	.	.
West South Central	6.8	1.6	1.7	15.8	0.9	15.1
Mountain	7.1	3.1	1.5	15.3	.	14.5
Pacific	5.8	2.3	1.7	14.3	1.6	15.5
Type of Practice						
Solo	6.1	1.7	1.7	13.1	1.1	16.5
Non-solo	6.3	1.3	1.6	17.1	1.2	17.0
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	5.7	2.0	0.9	15.5	1.2	15.1
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	6.6	1.3	2.0	15.8	1.4	16.7
1,000,000 and over	6.1	1.4	1.4	14.8	1.0	17.2
Employment Status						
Self-employed	7.1	1.8	1.8	15.3	1.3	17.6
Employee	4.1	0.8	1.2	15.5	0.9	14.5
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	4.3	1.4	1.0	14.2	1.5	14.3
36-45 years	6.5	1.5	2.5	17.8	1.4	19.4
46-55 years	7.6	1.9	1.2	16.1	1.0	17.4
56-65 years	5.9	1.1	0.7	12.9	1.0	14.8
66 or more years	3.3	1.4	0.3	8.4	.	11.0

Source: 1990 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Excludes physicians in radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology, but otherwise includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 19 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Hours in Surgery per Week, 1990**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	0.18	0.13	0.21	0.34	0.14	0.74
Census Division						
New England	0.70	0.23	0.48	1.28	0.35	.
Middle Atlantic	0.43	0.25	0.36	0.84	0.23	1.67
East North Central	0.47	0.40	0.54	0.88	0.64	2.08
West North Central	0.68	0.37	1.46	1.49	.	.
South Atlantic	0.43	0.05	0.57	0.69	0.19	2.19
East South Central	0.79	0.26	1.43	1.69	.	.
West South Central	0.57	0.48	0.71	0.98	0.37	2.23
Mountain	0.81	0.94	0.67	1.66	.	2.16
Pacific	0.39	0.29	0.42	0.82	0.37	1.53
Type of Practice						
Solo	0.28	0.23	0.37	0.47	0.25	1.28
Non-solo	0.23	0.15	0.26	0.47	0.17	0.91
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	0.47	0.30	0.36	0.98	0.49	2.10
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	0.27	0.18	0.35	0.49	0.22	1.24
1,000,000 and over	0.27	0.23	0.29	0.54	0.20	1.02
Employment Status						
Self-employed	0.22	0.17	0.27	0.37	0.18	0.91
Employee	0.28	0.17	0.32	0.90	0.23	1.14
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	0.42	0.33	0.31	1.38	0.37	1.33
36-45 years	0.31	0.21	0.42	0.64	0.26	1.20
46-55 years	0.39	0.44	0.30	0.59	0.25	1.77
56-65 years	0.37	0.19	0.41	0.61	0.30	1.27
66 or more years	0.42	0.37	0.38	0.88	.	3.19

Table 20. **Mean Number of Hours in Surgery per Week, 1983-1990**[a]

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All Physicians	6.0	5.5	5.6	6.2	6.2	6.5	6.2	6.2
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	2.5	2.0	1.7	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.5
Internal Medicine	1.1	1.3	1.4	1.6	2.0	1.8	1.4	1.6
Surgery	13.8	13.1	13.4	14.6	14.6	15.7	15.0	15.4
Pediatrics	1.0	1.2	0.9	1.2	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.2
Obstetrics/Gynecology	15.8	13.6	14.6	17.1	15.8	16.9	15.8	16.8
Census Division								
New England	5.0	4.6	4.7	5.2	5.5	5.4	5.2	4.6
Middle Atlantic	6.3	5.1	5.4	5.6	5.2	5.9	5.5	5.6
East North Central	6.2	6.1	5.3	6.9	7.4	7.0	6.0	7.0
West North Central	6.1	7.0	5.9	6.1	6.8	6.1	6.3	6.6
South Atlantic	5.7	5.4	6.0	5.9	6.2	6.9	6.6	6.3
East South Central	6.2	5.6	6.7	6.3	5.5	5.8	6.5	6.4
West South Central	6.9	6.1	5.9	6.3	6.0	6.8	6.6	6.8
Mountain	5.8	5.4	6.8	6.8	7.6	8.8	6.4	7.1
Pacific	5.9	5.0	5.2	6.5	6.1	6.1	6.5	5.8
Type of Practice								
Solo	6.1	5.6	5.6	6.0	6.4	7.0	6.0	6.1
Non-solo	6.0	5.5	5.7	6.4	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.3
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	5.8	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.3	6.0	5.7
Metropolitan—								
Less than 1,000,000	6.5	6.2	6.1	6.7	6.4	7.3	6.6	6.6
1,000,000 and over	5.7	5.0	5.3	5.9	6.1	6.1	5.8	6.1
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	4.3	4.0	3.9	5.6	5.5	4.6	4.6	4.3
36-45 years	6.6	6.0	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.7	5.7	6.5
46-55 years	7.0	6.5	6.8	7.5	7.9	7.7	7.8	7.6
56-65 years	6.1	5.5	5.3	5.7	5.3	6.7	6.5	5.9
66 or more years	3.2	3.5	3.0	4.1	3.8	3.9	3.7	3.3

Source: 1983-1990, AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core surveys. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. Data, other than in the specialty breakdown, include physicians in all specialties except radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. This will cause figures to differ from those reported in previous editions of this volume. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

Table 20 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Hours in Surgery per Week, 1983-1990**[a]

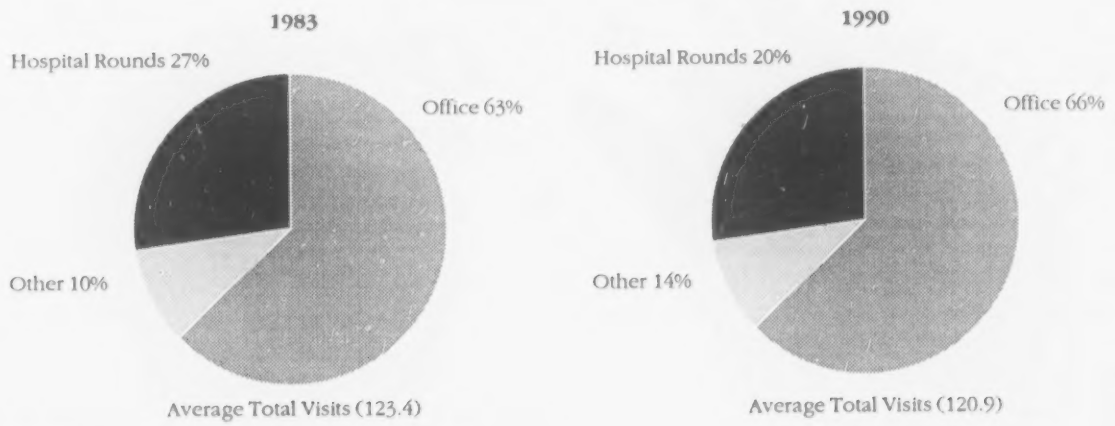
	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All Physicians	0.17	0.16	0.16	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.17	0.18
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	0.16	0.17	0.13	0.15	0.14	0.15	0.14	0.13
Internal Medicine	0.19	0.23	0.24	0.25	0.24	0.23	0.20	0.21
Surgery	0.33	0.31	0.33	0.38	0.35	0.36	0.34	0.34
Pediatrics	0.12	0.17	0.11	0.15	0.19	0.20	0.32	0.14
Obstetrics/Gynecology	0.64	0.48	0.55	0.69	0.65	0.67	0.68	0.74
Census Division								
New England	0.69	0.61	0.68	0.75	0.73	0.68	0.68	0.70
Middle Atlantic	0.52	0.42	0.40	0.47	0.42	0.46	0.41	0.43
East North Central	0.40	0.40	0.37	0.52	0.52	0.49	0.39	0.47
West North Central	0.54	0.66	0.62	0.67	0.70	0.59	0.65	0.68
South Atlantic	0.41	0.35	0.38	0.42	0.42	0.44	0.44	0.43
East South Central	0.63	0.60	0.82	0.72	0.68	0.70	0.78	0.79
West South Central	0.51	0.51	0.52	0.47	0.46	0.52	0.54	0.57
Mountain	0.74	0.62	0.79	0.79	0.84	0.86	0.74	0.81
Pacific	0.39	0.36	0.35	0.45	0.43	0.47	0.48	0.39
Type of Practice								
Solo	0.24	0.22	0.23	0.25	0.25	0.30	0.26	0.28
Non-solo	0.24	0.22	0.23	0.26	0.25	0.23	0.23	0.23
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	0.40	0.39	0.46	0.46	0.44	0.41	0.51	0.47
Metropolitan—								
Less than 1,000,000	0.26	0.25	0.26	0.28	0.28	0.29	0.26	0.27
1,000,000 and over	0.26	0.23	0.22	0.28	0.27	0.27	0.26	0.27
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	0.41	0.37	0.38	0.58	0.53	0.42	0.47	0.42
36-45 years	0.32	0.30	0.29	0.29	0.31	0.32	0.27	0.31
46-55 years	0.38	0.35	0.37	0.40	0.40	0.39	0.40	0.39
56-65 years	0.35	0.32	0.34	0.42	0.34	0.41	0.40	0.37
66 or more years	0.33	0.34	0.32	0.46	0.41	0.42	0.42	0.42

Utilization of Physician Services

Utilization of physician services refers to the quantity of services provided by physicians to their patients. The number of patient visits is a measure that captures a large proportion of the overall utilization of physician services. In the statistics that follow, total visits are decomposed into office visits, visits on hospital rounds, and other visits. Other visits include those in hospital emergency rooms and outpatient clinics, nursing homes, extended care facilities, and all other settings.

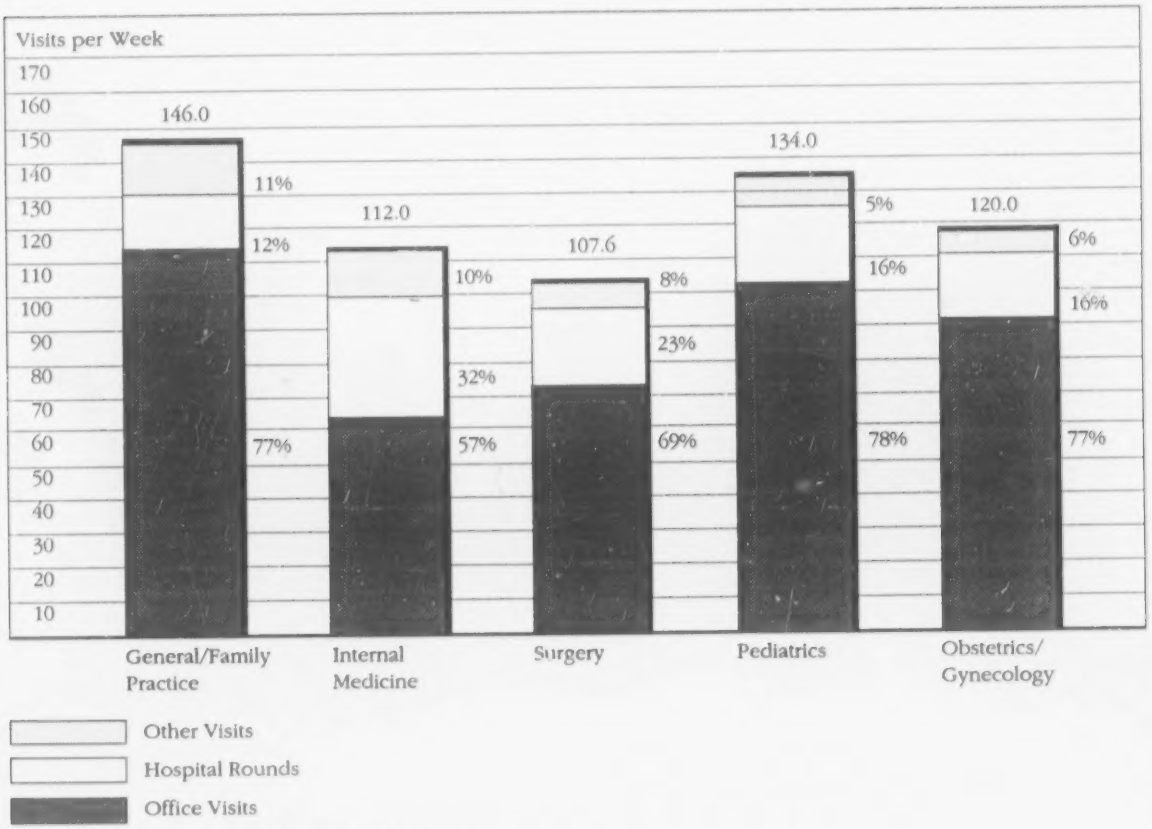
As shown in Figure 4, the average number of patient visits per physician per week was 120.9 in 1990. This represents a 2.0% decrease from 123.4 visits per week in 1983. The distribution of visits showed a slight shift toward more visits in the office and other settings and away from inpatient visits. Figure 5 indicates how the average number and distribution of visits differ across specialties. Similarly, Figure 6 indicates wide differences in the number of weekly visits per physician across geographic areas, ranging from 106.3 to 156.1, respectively, in the New England and East South Central Census Divisions.

Figure 4. **Distribution of Average Total Patient Visits per Week of All Physicians, 1983 and 1990[a]**



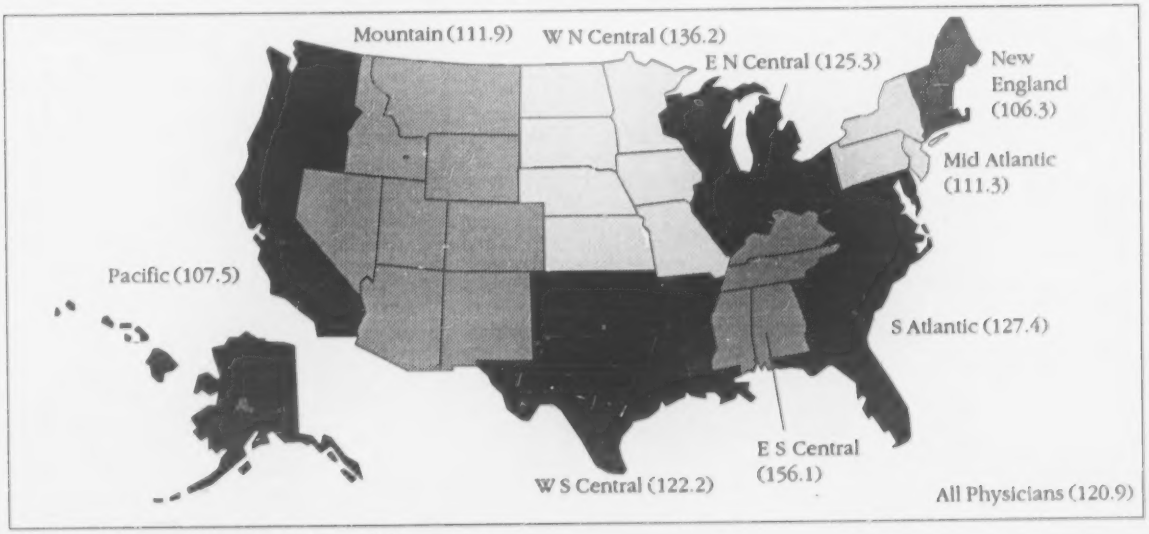
Source: AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System 1983 and 1990 core surveys.
a. Excludes physicians in psychiatry, radiology, anesthesiology, and pathology.

Figure 5. **Distribution of Average Total Patient Visits per Week, by Specialty, 1990**[a]



Source: AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System 1990 core survey.
a. Excludes physicians in psychiatry, radiology, anesthesiology, and pathology.

Figure 6. **Average Total Patient Visits per Physician per Week, by Census Division, 1990**[a]



Source: AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System 1990 core survey.
a. Excludes physicians in psychiatry, radiology, anesthesiology, and pathology.

Table 21. **Mean Number of Total Patient Visits per Week, 1989**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	121.6	143.0	117.9	107.7	138.1	115.6
Census Division						
New England	109.5	117.2	110.4	94.4	120.5	.
Middle Atlantic	116.1	125.7	117.8	104.1	140.8	120.1
East North Central	122.1	146.6	123.8	104.3	122.1	111.7
West North Central	138.2	164.6	133.3	120.3	.	.
South Atlantic	127.5	146.7	122.4	112.9	169.9	110.4
East South Central	155.4	191.8	139.5	138.7	.	.
West South Central	136.0	144.9	113.1	118.9	134.4	120.4
Mountain	120.7	142.7	119.5	103.3	.	.
Pacific	104.2	121.5	98.1	92.2	125.0	99.4
Type of Practice						
Solo	115.1	136.5	120.7	93.8	129.5	106.2
Non-solo	125.9	148.9	116.2	119.4	141.7	122.9
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	150.6	170.3	155.1	121.9	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	129.2	143.8	127.7	118.3	149.0	123.3
1,000,000 and over	108.3	122.3	105.9	93.3	128.3	107.1
Employment Status						
Self-employed	126.2	148.9	125.8	110.3	149.1	118.1
Employee	109.1	124.0	94.8	95.1	119.5	105.1
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	115.3	129.9	110.9	111.4	112.7	106.6
36-45 years	127.4	154.8	123.9	114.5	135.5	117.4
46-55 years	126.6	159.9	118.8	115.9	145.4	129.2
56-65 years	115.8	141.2	108.2	93.6	147.0	114.5
66 or more years	100.0	108.2	103.4	84.6	.	.

Source: 1989 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Excludes physicians in radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology, but otherwise includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 21 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Total Patient Visits per Week, 1989**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	1.23	2.83	2.52	2.14	4.53	3.39
Census Division						
New England	3.61	8.45	6.42	6.74	15.43	.
Middle Atlantic	2.80	7.82	5.49	4.78	8.67	9.02
East North Central	2.97	5.94	6.74	4.65	10.27	7.77
West North Central	4.78	7.56	12.07	9.37	.	.
South Atlantic	3.27	6.99	5.75	5.30	16.22	8.77
East South Central	6.26	17.17	11.12	11.69	.	.
West South Central	4.03	8.68	8.42	7.83	13.29	8.52
Mountain	5.29	8.83	18.92	8.16	.	.
Pacific	2.60	6.53	5.72	4.63	9.08	7.33
Type of Practice						
Solo	1.90	4.16	4.56	2.62	6.96	5.06
Non-solo	1.60	3.85	2.99	3.15	5.68	4.47
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	4.40	7.16	9.06	6.94	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	1.86	3.61	4.19	3.23	7.91	5.54
1,000,000 and over	1.66	4.39	3.12	2.92	5.39	4.25
Employment Status						
Self-employed	1.43	3.33	2.96	2.39	4.77	** 3.71
Employee	2.38	5.03	4.33	4.62	8.84	8.17
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	2.86	5.66	5.77	6.18	7.59	8.79
36-45 years	2.12	4.25	3.87	4.67	7.77	6.69
46-55 years	2.59	9.69	5.19	3.75	9.41	5.92
56-65 years	2.65	5.75	6.73	3.61	8.10	6.44
66 or more years	3.97	6.73	10.24	5.99	.	.

Table 22. **Mean Number of Total Patient Visits per Week, 1990**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	120.9	146.0	112.0	107.6	134.0	120.0
Census Division						
New England	106.3	115.5	101.5	102.2	110.8	.
Middle Atlantic	111.3	135.7	107.3	108.9	119.1	105.8
East North Central	125.3	152.6	116.2	104.5	133.6	137.2
West North Central	136.2	160.0	114.1	108.8	.	.
South Atlantic	127.4	143.7	113.3	129.2	148.1	121.7
East South Central	156.1	207.8	142.7	123.5	.	.
West South Central	122.2	150.9	111.0	99.6	145.8	115.8
Mountain	111.9	131.9	114.4	95.0	.	101.2
Pacific	107.5	122.4	107.5	88.0	119.8	111.0
Type of Practice						
Solo	116.0	146.5	110.3	97.7	130.2	114.5
Non-solo	123.9	145.6	113.0	115.4	135.3	123.1
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	150.1	182.9	125.0	114.7	156.7	135.8
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	127.6	145.4	119.5	118.0	143.9	125.3
1,000,000 and over	108.3	124.0	104.3	95.3	121.7	113.3
Employment Status						
Self-employed	126.4	152.7	117.8	110.7	150.6	127.9
Employee	107.3	128.5	96.7	92.3	106.5	98.1
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	116.2	134.6	111.7	93.8	144.2	95.8
36-45 years	124.1	147.9	115.7	111.4	125.0	138.6
46-55 years	127.7	158.7	115.6	121.7	136.1	120.2
56-65 years	114.5	155.0	103.1	93.9	136.7	108.0
66 or more years	101.4	118.2	91.2	75.6	.	.

Source: 1990 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.
a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.
b. Excludes physicians in radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology, but otherwise includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.
. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 22 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Total Patient Visits per Week, 1990**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	1.32	3.27	2.29	2.44	4.65	3.94
Census Division						
New England	4.22	10.30	7.95	9.52	11.67	.
Middle Atlantic	2.88	10.05	4.51	5.06	9.05	8.32
East North Central	3.07	7.96	5.80	3.83	8.21	11.58
West North Central	5.35	8.20	10.48	6.69	.	.
South Atlantic	3.74	7.52	5.03	9.61	9.26	9.14
East South Central	6.71	17.78	13.11	6.96	.	.
West South Central	4.38	10.75	8.50	5.25	21.53	9.83
Mountain	5.32	11.74	15.14	9.29	.	9.29
Pacific	2.53	5.26	5.49	3.95	9.35	11.10
Type of Practice						
Solo	2.06	5.05	3.93	3.21	7.19	5.28
Non-solo	1.72	4.29	2.81	3.50	5.75	5.44
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	4.79	8.01	10.98	5.90	17.01	13.87
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	2.15	4.87	3.56	4.34	8.15	5.70
1,000,000 and over	1.62	4.44	3.03	2.61	5.55	5.78
Employment Status						
Self-employed	1.59	3.79	2.78	2.81	5.30	4.23
Employee	2.32	6.30	3.76	5.69	8.09	8.64
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	3.68	7.63	5.87	6.63	19.87	7.86
36-45 years	2.20	5.57	3.37	5.33	5.92	8.09
46-55 years	2.79	8.92	5.08	3.88	10.44	7.57
56-65 years	2.83	6.90	5.43	4.03	9.15	6.38
66 or more years	4.24	7.84	10.39	5.70	.	.

Table 23. **Mean Number of Total Patient Visits per Week, 1983-1990**[a]

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All Physicians	123.4	118.1	117.1	117.7	119.3	121.1	121.6	120.9
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	148.4	139.0	138.1	139.2	138.3	145.6	143.0	146.0
Internal Medicine	113.4	107.7	105.2	111.1	114.5	113.0	117.9	112.0
Surgery	111.9	110.0	108.2	105.8	107.8	105.0	107.7	107.6
Pediatrics	137.4	128.7	130.8	131.9	127.4	135.1	138.1	134.0
Obstetrics/Gynecology	118.2	115.7	112.0	114.8	112.7	118.9	115.6	120.0
Census Division								
New England	113.3	108.7	98.2	109.5	112.0	105.0	109.5	106.3
Middle Atlantic	121.5	114.4	110.9	110.3	109.5	113.9	116.1	111.3
East North Central	127.5	123.1	122.6	121.3	125.7	124.6	122.1	125.3
West North Central	141.3	128.6	117.6	122.0	128.9	136.0	138.2	136.2
South Atlantic	123.4	119.9	122.3	118.9	122.3	123.6	127.5	127.4
East South Central	149.8	153.8	157.5	148.9	151.1	158.4	155.4	156.1
West South Central	138.6	132.6	127.5	126.3	125.7	119.8	126.0	122.2
Mountain	121.1	114.2	109.9	111.2	115.0	118.6	120.7	111.9
Pacific	100.9	94.7	102.4	107.4	104.2	111.6	104.2	107.5
Type of Practice								
Solo	116.7	113.7	112.3	112.2	114.0	115.6	115.1	116.0
Non-solo	129.1	122.3	121.2	122.0	123.2	124.9	125.9	123.9
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	153.3	150.3	144.0	140.0	141.5	153.3	150.6	150.1
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	131.6	125.6	123.7	124.1	127.6	127.1	129.2	127.6
1,000,000 and over	107.8	104.1	105.6	106.7	106.6	108.8	108.3	108.3
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	115.5	118.3	115.6	121.6	118.4	121.3	115.3	116.2
36-45 years	125.1	116.0	118.4	119.4	124.3	124.8	127.4	124.1
46-55 years	131.6	128.4	119.9	120.8	122.0	124.1	126.6	127.7
56-65 years	127.3	121.1	121.9	113.6	115.7	119.5	115.8	114.5
66 or more years	95.0	91.7	94.9	104.1	96.2	100.2	100.0	101.4

Source: 1983-1990, AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core surveys. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. Data, other than in the specialty breakdown, are based on responses from physicians in all specialties except radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. This will cause figures to differ from those reported in previous editions of this volume. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

Table 23 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Total Patient Visits per Week, 1983-1990**[a]

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All Physicians	1.47	1.30	1.27	1.32	1.22	1.28	1.23	1.32
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	3.16	3.13	2.79	2.97	2.93	2.94	2.83	3.27
Internal Medicine	2.79	2.80	2.99	3.11	2.50	2.36	2.52	2.29
Surgery	2.34	2.16	2.18	2.27	2.03	2.16	2.14	2.44
Pediatrics	4.74	3.97	3.68	4.09	3.67	4.00	4.53	4.65
Obstetrics/Gynecology	3.82	3.13	2.98	3.19	3.11	3.45	3.39	3.94
Census Division								
New England	4.35	5.16	4.25	4.80	4.28	3.95	3.61	4.22
Middle Atlantic	4.51	3.45	3.49	2.83	2.67	2.91	2.80	2.88
East North Central	3.34	3.29	3.32	3.24	3.30	3.23	2.97	3.07
West North Central	5.97	5.03	3.92	4.08	4.03	5.41	4.78	5.35
South Atlantic	3.09	2.85	2.91	3.78	3.21	3.28	3.27	3.74
East South Central	7.53	6.68	7.09	7.86	5.91	7.19	6.26	6.71
West South Central	4.58	4.00	4.07	3.94	4.14	3.46	4.03	4.38
Mountain	9.14	5.36	4.61	4.62	4.60	5.21	5.29	5.32
Pacific	2.43	2.41	2.40	2.79	2.38	2.83	2.60	2.53
Type of Practice								
Solo	1.96	1.85	1.83	1.76	1.75	2.06	1.90	2.06
Non-solo	2.14	1.81	1.75	1.89	1.67	1.63	1.60	1.72
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	4.32	4.14	4.29	3.91	3.78	4.52	4.40	4.79
Metropolitan—								
Less than 1,000,000	2.44	2.01	1.99	2.22	2.02	2.01	1.86	2.15
1,000,000 and over	1.84	1.74	1.69	1.68	1.54	1.68	1.66	1.62
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	3.43	3.40	3.08	3.61	3.07	3.25	2.86	3.68
36-45 years	2.81	2.27	2.18	2.00	2.04	2.07	2.12	2.20
46-55 years	3.31	2.85	2.80	3.07	2.77	2.74	2.59	2.79
56-65 years	2.86	2.80	3.00	3.11	2.57	3.00	2.65	2.83
66 or more years	3.17	3.41	3.33	4.22	3.61	4.51	3.97	4.24

Table 24. **Mean Number of Office Visits per Week, 1989**[a]

	All Physicians[b]	Specialty				
		General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	79.1	109.1	65.9	73.1	101.8	89.3
Census Division						
New England	66.8	83.1	59.0	66.8	89.3	.
Middle Atlantic	73.7	95.0	64.9	65.8	116.5	92.9
East North Central	78.8	107.6	68.4	75.4	83.7	90.4
West North Central	89.0	122.5	68.8	74.1	.	.
South Atlantic	82.5	112.2	65.1	77.8	115.5	88.3
East South Central	96.2	135.8	83.4	93.5	.	.
West South Central	83.8	115.9	57.8	75.1	94.8	91.7
Mountain	78.2	114.6	69.5	70.5	.	.
Pacific	74.4	99.0	66.3	67.4	103.6	73.7
Type of Practice						
Solo	85.3	108.2	77.0	68.2	111.6	85.7
Non-solo	74.9	110.0	59.2	77.4	97.7	92.3
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	100.1	123.0	88.6	73.4	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	82.6	108.4	69.8	82.4	106.9	92.6
1,000,000 and over	71.3	100.0	60.1	63.1	96.0	85.6
Employment Status						
Self-employed	89.0	114.9	73.3	76.4	127.0	95.2
Employee	52.0	90.3	43.9	57.7	58.9	63.5
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	72.6	98.7	65.1	74.8	68.0	86.8
36-45 years	78.0	117.2	64.9	77.1	96.1	89.1
46-55 years	81.5	113.1	64.4	79.5	109.1	101.9
56-65 years	83.4	111.5	68.4	64.4	119.4	85.6
66 or more years	73.4	87.9	73.0	55.3	.	.

Source: 1989 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Excludes physicians in radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology, but otherwise includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 24 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Office Visits per Week, 1989**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	1.03	2.21	1.83	1.76	3.67	2.79
Census Division						
New England	3.42	6.21	5.90	6.21	14.69	.
Middle Atlantic	2.43	7.57	3.99	3.85	8.38	7.16
East North Central	2.43	4.45	4.24	4.49	8.92	7.05
West North Central	4.01	5.13	8.72	6.42	.	.
South Atlantic	2.48	5.01	4.40	4.23	8.80	7.01
East South Central	5.63	12.34	10.28	10.52	.	.
West South Central	3.17	7.02	5.27	4.75	11.77	6.36
Mountain	4.45	7.22	10.47	7.65	.	.
Pacific	2.52	5.59	4.78	4.24	9.96	6.90
Type of Practice						
Solo	1.54	3.20	3.39	2.28	6.14	3.87
Non-solo	1.35	3.05	2.06	2.58	4.50	3.93
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	3.37	4.75	7.38	5.49	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	1.56	3.09	2.88	2.73	5.53	4.32
1,000,000 and over	1.45	3.97	2.43	2.36	5.19	3.78
Employment Status						
Self-employed	1.16	2.48	2.07	1.94	4.16	2.86
Employee	1.85	4.50	3.30	3.89	5.27	7.41
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	2.57	4.25	5.00	4.72	9.09	8.37
36-45 years	1.72	3.69	2.85	3.28	5.39	5.00
46-55 years	2.17	6.16	3.47	3.51	8.74	5.29
56-65 years	2.27	4.77	4.68	3.26	6.76	5.37
66 or more years	3.42	6.07	8.07	4.55	.	.

Table 25. **Mean Number of Office Visits per Week, 1990**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	79.7	112.5	64.3	74.7	105.1	92.8
Census Division						
New England	69.4	92.8	57.3	78.3	94.9	.
Middle Atlantic	67.7	100.0	55.4	68.7	94.7	81.9
East North Central	83.7	111.6	69.3	72.4	106.2	103.1
West North Central	89.7	121.5	63.6	71.6	.	.
South Atlantic	85.3	115.6	65.9	91.0	107.2	95.7
East South Central	98.6	156.7	83.9	84.3	.	.
West South Central	78.4	108.9	53.0	69.4	127.5	92.0
Mountain	74.7	112.1	72.4	64.7	.	73.2
Pacific	76.8	101.3	69.1	66.5	92.8	83.2
Type of Practice						
Solo	85.6	116.4	68.8	72.2	111.3	95.1
Non-solo	76.0	109.1	61.5	76.7	102.9	91.5
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	104.5	134.3	77.1	80.2	123.9	94.9
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	81.8	112.4	65.2	81.6	111.3	98.5
1,000,000 and over	72.3	98.5	62.0	66.5	96.8	87.9
Employment Status						
Self-employed	89.3	120.1	69.6	79.2	128.0	103.2
Employee	55.4	92.2	50.0	52.5	66.7	61.7
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	72.7	103.5	58.0	63.1	106.0	71.1
36-45 years	78.5	113.0	65.6	78.0	94.6	102.5
46-55 years	82.7	117.3	65.9	82.3	108.5	96.0
56-65 years	83.3	121.9	63.4	67.5	114.4	87.7
66 or more years	75.5	96.3	60.9	53.7	.	73.2

Source: 1990 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Excludes physicians in radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology, but otherwise includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 25 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Office Visits per Week, 1990[a]**

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	1.14	2.54	1.72	2.13	4.42	3.08
Census Division						
New England	4.16	7.58	6.44	9.54	12.24	.
Middle Atlantic	2.40	9.06	3.47	3.59	8.60	7.48
East North Central	2.50	5.49	4.28	3.49	9.55	10.06
West North Central	4.63	6.56	8.24	5.89	.	.
South Atlantic	3.34	6.34	3.80	8.56	9.86	6.52
East South Central	5.30	12.29	9.55	6.67	.	.
West South Central	3.68	7.89	4.60	4.63	20.78	6.85
Mountain	4.76	10.24	12.41	6.83	.	8.78
Pacific	2.42	5.26	4.01	4.04	9.38	6.39
Type of Practice						
Solo	1.70	3.82	2.82	2.57	6.48	4.53
Non-solo	1.50	3.40	2.16	3.20	5.50	4.10
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	3.69	5.70	6.59	4.70	14.77	8.93
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	1.85	3.72	2.79	3.78	7.62	4.45
1,000,000 and over	1.47	4.07	2.25	2.40	5.56	4.64
Employment Status						
Self-employed	1.33	2.86	1.97	2.41	4.85	3.32
Employee	1.97	5.09	3.24	3.68	7.28	5.68
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	3.32	7.16	4.65	5.45	16.71	6.30
36-45 years	1.96	4.05	2.61	5.03	5.90	5.99
46-55 years	2.23	6.95	3.57	2.93	10.25	6.18
56-65 years	2.49	5.51	4.13	3.73	8.07	5.71
66 or more years	3.64	6.31	7.77	4.35	.	10.57

Table 26. **Mean Number of Office Visits per Week, 1983-1990**[a]

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All Physicians	77.4	73.0	73.5	75.7	77.0	79.2	79.1	79.7
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	106.3	99.5	101.8	106.3	106.4	112.3	109.1	112.5
Internal Medicine	60.9	57.5	57.2	60.0	64.1	64.9	65.9	64.3
Surgery	68.2	68.1	68.0	69.8	73.0	70.2	73.1	74.7
Pediatrics	105.1	96.0	96.9	100.7	91.8	102.2	101.8	105.1
Obstetrics/Gynecology	85.3	84.3	84.5	85.2	88.2	91.4	89.3	92.8
Census Division								
New England	70.5	62.5	59.1	70.3	72.4	69.2	66.8	69.4
Middle Atlantic	70.2	64.1	66.5	67.6	67.5	70.4	73.7	67.7
East North Central	77.2	74.0	76.6	75.5	78.1	81.3	78.8	83.7
West North Central	89.8	80.6	78.9	80.0	82.5	88.5	89.0	89.7
South Atlantic	79.5	77.2	78.4	74.8	78.7	80.9	82.5	85.3
East South Central	90.1	94.8	93.7	92.5	95.1	101.2	96.2	98.6
West South Central	87.0	80.8	78.8	81.6	84.3	80.6	83.8	78.4
Mountain	75.2	73.6	67.3	75.7	77.0	76.8	78.2	74.7
Pacific	70.1	65.0	67.5	75.6	72.2	77.7	74.4	76.8
Type of Practice								
Solo	79.3	76.6	78.7	79.2	82.7	84.5	85.3	85.6
Non-solo	75.8	69.6	69.0	72.9	72.9	75.6	74.9	76.0
Location :								
Nonmetropolitan	97.3	96.9	92.9	92.5	97.2	102.6	100.1	104.5
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	82.1	77.0	76.6	78.5	80.6	82.8	82.6	81.8
1,000,000 and over	67.8	64.1	66.5	69.1	69.1	71.1	71.3	72.3
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	68.2	63.0	59.7	69.8	70.0	72.1	72.6	72.7
36-45 years	73.1	66.7	69.9	72.7	75.0	76.6	78.0	78.5
46-55 years	85.0	83.1	79.4	81.3	81.1	81.4	81.5	82.7
56-65 years	87.1	83.7	83.5	80.5	83.6	86.5	83.4	83.3
66 or more years	66.7	63.9	69.8	71.1	69.5	75.8	73.4	75.5

Source: 1983-1990, AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core surveys. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. Data, other than in the specialty breakdown, are based on responses from physicians in all specialties except radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. This will cause figures to differ from those reported in previous editions of this volume. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

Table 26 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Office Visits per Week, 1983-1990[a]**

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All Physicians	1.10	1.04	1.05	1.07	1.02	1.09	1.03	1.14
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	2.31	2.26	2.17	2.37	2.38	2.46	2.21	2.54
Internal Medicine	1.98	1.96	2.11	1.96	1.69	1.70	1.83	1.72
Surgery	1.89	1.75	1.76	1.93	1.75	1.81	1.76	2.13
Pediatrics	3.95	3.55	3.53	3.53	3.53	3.96	3.67	4.42
Obstetrics/Gynecology	2.68	2.67	2.32	2.58	2.53	2.43	2.79	3.08
Census Division								
New England	3.56	4.03	3.98	4.48	3.92	3.43	3.42	4.16
Middle Atlantic	3.14	2.58	2.69	2.33	2.29	2.50	2.43	2.40
East North Central	2.54	2.65	2.77	2.70	2.62	2.72	2.43	2.50
West North Central	5.19	3.75	3.65	3.61	3.41	3.95	4.01	4.63
South Atlantic	2.59	2.46	2.38	2.70	2.57	2.72	2.48	3.34
East South Central	4.95	4.89	5.29	5.03	5.32	6.17	5.63	5.30
West South Central	3.70	3.44	3.44	3.26	3.41	3.05	3.17	3.68
Mountain	4.40	4.60	4.12	4.48	4.37	4.74	4.45	4.76
Pacific	2.23	2.25	2.32	2.73	2.30	2.78	2.52	2.42
Type of Practice								
Solo	1.59	1.42	1.53	1.46	1.47	1.72	1.54	1.70
Non-solo	1.53	1.51	1.44	1.52	1.41	1.41	1.35	1.50
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	3.11	2.98	3.02	3.00	3.10	3.58	3.37	3.69
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	1.72	1.64	1.65	1.66	1.62	1.77	1.56	1.85
1,000,000 and over	1.57	1.45	1.50	1.54	1.41	1.44	1.45	1.47
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	2.98	2.71	2.49	3.02	2.97	2.97	2.57	3.32
36-45 years	1.89	1.82	1.78	1.65	1.74	1.75	1.72	1.96
46-55 years	2.61	2.28	2.33	2.33	2.21	2.22	2.17	2.23
56-65 years	2.34	2.25	2.50	2.69	2.20	2.73	2.27	2.49
66 or more years	2.43	2.66	2.84	3.26	2.90	3.74	3.42	3.64

Table 27. **Mean Number of Visits on Hospital Rounds per Week, 1989[a]**

	All Physicians[b]	Specialty				
		General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	26.0	18.8	39.3	26.7	26.6	19.7
Census Division						
New England	19.0	16.1	26.0	21.0	16.2	.
Middle Atlantic	27.8	18.9	41.8	28.8	15.6	17.3
East North Central	25.9	22.3	43.7	22.6	27.9	16.6
West North Central	32.5	24.7	51.4	32.9	.	.
South Atlantic	29.8	21.5	40.6	28.6	46.3	17.7
East South Central	31.6	26.9	42.3	33.5	.	.
West South Central	29.0	15.3	45.4	36.1	26.4	26.0
Mountain	22.8	13.9	37.8	24.9	.	.
Pacific	17.3	10.3	28.2	18.7	17.4	14.5
Type of Practice						
Solo	21.6	17.5	34.5	18.9	12.8	17.7
Non-solo	29.0	20.0	42.2	33.4	32.3	21.3
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	28.2	26.1	41.2	33.0	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	28.7	19.3	43.9	29.2	31.3	22.1
1,000,000 and over	23.1	12.9	35.4	22.9	23.4	16.8
Employment Status						
Self-employed	26.7	20.0	40.6	26.4	15.9	20.0
Employee	24.2	15.1	35.3	28.3	44.6	18.6
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	21.1	15.0	27.9	25.9	26.3	15.2
36-45 years	30.6	19.8	45.9	30.0	33.1	23.1
46-55 years	27.2	25.2	41.3	27.4	24.2	18.1
56-65 years	21.8	17.7	30.5	23.9	16.8	20.1
66 or more years	16.5	13.7	21.5	21.0	.	.

Source: 1989 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Excludes physicians in radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology, but otherwise includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 27 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Visits on Hospital Rounds per Week , 1989**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	0.71	1.10	1.63	1.30	3.51	1.13
Census Division						
New England	1.47	2.91	3.20	3.33	2.74	.
Middle Atlantic	1.68	3.41	4.09	3.20	2.31	2.22
East North Central	1.52	2.01	4.51	2.37	5.99	1.55
West North Central	2.50	2.74	7.96	5.19	.	.
South Atlantic	2.37	4.18	3.79	3.02	17.07	2.36
East South Central	2.83	5.86	4.57	5.50	.	.
West South Central	2.68	2.04	6.89	6.88	10.75	4.49
Mountain	2.22	2.65	6.40	4.63	.	.
Pacific	1.16	1.34	3.08	2.63	3.08	2.18
Type of Practice						
Solo	0.80	1.38	2.29	1.22	1.34	1.84
Non-solo	1.03	1.66	2.18	2.10	4.78	1.42
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	2.13	3.34	6.37	3.98	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	1.18	1.44	2.74	1.84	6.78	2.03
1,000,000 and over	0.93	1.06	2.06	2.03	3.48	1.25
Employment Status						
Self-employed	0.73	1.30	1.85	1.40	1.16	1.30
Employee	1.71	1.98	3.38	3.36	8.87	2.14
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	1.57	1.85	3.64	4.67	5.82	1.96
36-45 years	1.41	1.24	2.66	3.14	7.00	2.50
46-55 years	1.48	5.23	3.28	2.27	6.29	1.69
56-65 years	1.08	1.75	3.79	1.74	2.49	2.50
66 or more years	1.43	2.30	3.71	3.11	.	

Table 28. **Mean Number of Visits on Hospital Rounds per Week, 1990**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	24.2	17.7	36.2	24.8	21.7	19.7
Census Division						
New England	18.4	14.4	29.5	16.6	12.4	.
Middle Atlantic	25.8	15.2	35.9	31.0	17.5	13.3
East North Central	23.2	16.8	35.2	22.8	25.5	23.6
West North Central	26.7	21.4	39.1	29.1	.	.
South Atlantic	28.1	17.4	39.8	29.0	29.5	18.4
East South Central	29.1	32.0	48.1	26.6	.	.
West South Central	25.8	24.7	43.2	24.5	17.6	22.6
Mountain	22.1	11.1	37.0	25.0	.	22.5
Pacific	18.5	11.1	28.7	16.1	18.6	18.4
Type of Practice						
Solo	21.2	18.2	31.9	18.9	12.0	15.1
Non-solo	26.1	17.3	38.8	29.6	25.3	22.4
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	24.8	26.2	29.1	24.9	22.3	26.5
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	26.6	16.8	40.9	28.0	26.1	21.5
1,000,000 and over	21.9	13.4	32.8	21.5	18.1	17.2
Employment Status						
Self-employed	25.7	20.0	38.3	24.2	16.9	19.2
Employee	20.7	12.0	30.5	27.7	29.6	21.2
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	22.2	13.3	34.3	21.0	21.8	18.7
36-45 years	26.3	17.6	39.6	25.7	26.6	24.2
46-55 years	27.6	23.1	38.6	29.6	17.9	17.6
56-65 years	20.1	18.2	29.9	20.7	16.7	16.4
66 or more years	13.8	13.2	19.4	13.5	.	.

Source: 1990 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Excludes physicians in radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology, but otherwise includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 28 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Visits on Hospital Rounds per Week , 1990[a]**

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	0.58	0.90	1.45	1.14	1.96	1.20
Census Division						
New England	2.09	3.55	5.14	4.37	2.90	.
Middle Atlantic	1.54	2.25	3.12	3.30	5.19	1.56
East North Central	1.27	1.69	3.77	2.01	5.60	4.07
West North Central	2.06	2.22	6.66	4.43	.	.
South Atlantic	1.68	2.24	3.50	3.64	5.50	2.37
East South Central	2.43	5.20	7.31	3.62	.	.
West South Central	1.96	4.09	4.97	3.70	7.33	3.48
Mountain	2.33	1.94	7.55	4.99	.	3.48
Pacific	1.12	1.47	3.18	1.46	3.39	3.94
Type of Practice						
Solo	0.86	1.55	2.15	1.61	1.39	1.32
Non-solo	0.77	1.05	1.91	1.57	2.56	1.71
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	1.57	2.66	4.88	2.92	4.05	4.00
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	0.92	1.27	2.24	1.86	3.00	2.05
1,000,000 and over	0.83	1.02	2.01	1.53	2.89	1.52
Employment Status						
Self-employed	0.68	1.14	1.75	1.23	1.29	1.15
Employee	1.11	1.27	2.51	3.05	4.74	3.30
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	1.53	1.77	3.54	3.43	5.78	2.74
36-45 years	0.95	1.48	2.15	1.74	3.93	2.16
46-55 years	1.36	2.70	3.28	2.52	2.32	2.75
56-65 years	1.09	1.85	3.72	2.00	3.55	1.82
66 or more years	1.49	2.36	5.04	2.70	.	.

Table 29. **Mean Number of Visits on Hospital Rounds per Week, 1983-1990**[a]

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All Physicians	32.9	28.4	27.2	25.8	25.1	24.8	26.0	24.2
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	28.3	24.4	22.0	18.0	16.9	17.0	18.8	17.7
Internal Medicine	42.8	37.6	35.3	37.7	37.0	35.5	39.3	36.2
Surgery	39.2	33.9	31.9	27.7	28.1	26.5	26.7	24.8
Pediatrics	25.3	18.6	21.0	21.1	21.6	21.2	26.6	21.7
Obstetrics/Gynecology	27.3	23.9	23.7	23.7	19.9	22.9	19.7	19.7
Census Division								
New England	30.3	26.1	22.5	20.9	20.1	19.4	19.0	18.4
Middle Atlantic	34.4	30.8	29.5	27.2	27.2	27.3	27.8	25.8
East North Central	36.5	30.3	27.5	29.5	27.9	24.3	25.9	23.2
West North Central	39.6	35.2	27.5	26.3	28.8	32.4	32.5	26.7
South Atlantic	31.8	28.5	27.5	27.6	26.1	26.3	29.8	28.1
East South Central	47.8	37.5	44.3	33.7	34.5	32.3	31.6	29.1
West South Central	39.1	32.9	33.9	28.0	26.0	26.1	29.0	25.8
Mountain	26.4	22.6	22.4	21.7	20.5	22.7	22.8	22.1
Pacific	21.0	18.3	17.6	17.1	16.3	16.9	17.3	18.5
Type of Practice								
Solo	28.7	25.9	23.9	22.6	21.9	21.7	21.6	21.2
Non-solo	36.5	30.7	30.0	28.3	27.5	26.9	29.0	26.1
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	42.9	36.6	32.4	26.4	26.0	26.9	28.2	24.8
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	34.9	30.2	29.4	29.1	27.5	25.1	28.7	26.6
1,000,000 and over	28.4	24.9	24.1	22.7	22.6	24.1	23.1	21.9
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	30.9	28.3	25.7	27.6	24.0	24.7	21.1	22.2
36-45 years	36.2	30.9	29.3	28.7	28.5	27.8	30.6	26.3
46-55 years	35.1	31.1	30.5	27.0	26.1	26.1	27.2	27.6
56-65 years	30.7	25.4	24.9	21.2	21.0	21.7	21.8	20.1
66 or more years	19.5	17.1	15.6	16.3	16.2	15.2	16.5	13.8

Source: 1983-1990, AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core surveys. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. Data, other than in the specialty breakdown, are based on responses from physicians in all specialties except radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. This will cause figures to differ from those reported in previous editions of this volume. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

Table 29 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Visits on Hospital Rounds per Week, 1983-1990**[a]

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All Physicians	0.72	0.61	0.67	0.65	0.61	0.66	0.71	0.58
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	1.26	1.20	1.14	0.94	0.84	0.82	1.10	0.90
Internal Medicine	1.75	1.64	1.90	1.70	1.56	1.46	1.63	1.45
Surgery	1.49	1.23	1.39	1.27	1.24	1.16	1.30	1.14
Pediatrics	2.19	1.22	1.91	2.34	1.91	2.06	3.51	1.96
Obstetrics/Gynecology	1.91	1.18	1.25	1.26	1.08	1.69	1.13	1.20
Census Division								
New England	2.66	2.37	2.14	2.05	1.84	1.74	1.47	2.09
Middle Atlantic	2.20	1.74	2.02	1.70	1.75	1.63	1.68	1.54
East North Central	1.74	1.62	1.54	1.94	1.74	1.31	1.52	1.27
West North Central	2.45	2.45	2.04	2.42	2.47	4.14	2.50	2.06
South Atlantic	1.59	1.46	1.50	1.81	1.51	1.60	2.37	1.68
East South Central	4.26	2.99	3.95	2.63	2.93	3.54	2.83	2.43
West South Central	2.55	1.91	2.50	1.88	1.73	2.08	2.68	1.96
Mountain	2.50	1.98	2.34	2.06	1.79	2.18	2.22	2.33
Pacific	1.10	1.03	1.04	1.07	0.97	1.31	1.16	1.12
Type of Practice								
Solo	0.91	0.82	0.81	0.77	0.74	0.82	0.80	0.86
Non-solo	1.10	0.90	1.03	1.00	0.92	0.95	1.03	0.77
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	2.29	1.92	2.13	1.48	1.57	1.79	2.13	1.57
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	1.17	0.96	1.12	1.15	0.99	0.93	1.18	0.92
1,000,000 and over	0.96	0.86	0.89	0.86	0.88	1.05	0.93	0.83
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	1.88	1.68	1.71	2.37	1.64	1.75	1.57	1.53
36-45 years	1.37	1.16	1.17	1.10	1.17	1.16	1.41	0.95
46-55 years	1.63	1.40	1.61	1.45	1.28	1.59	1.48	1.36
56-65 years	1.39	1.14	1.42	1.09	0.97	1.12	1.08	1.09
66 or more years	1.56	1.28	1.24	1.30	1.77	1.33	1.43	1.49

Table 30. **Mean Number of Surgical Procedures per Week, 1989**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	3.5	0.9	1.0	8.5	0.6	8.4
Census Division						
New England	2.6	0.9	0.5	7.4	0.6	.
Middle Atlantic	2.8	0.2	0.9	7.3	0.3	7.5
East North Central	3.5	1.0	1.0	9.1	0.3	7.9
West North Central	3.9	2.0	1.2	9.3	.	.
South Atlantic	3.7	0.4	1.3	8.3	0.4	8.6
East South Central	4.2	0.3	1.0	12.1	.	.
West South Central	4.0	1.1	0.9	9.7	0.6	8.0
Mountain	3.7	1.4	1.7	7.8	.	.
Pacific	3.5	1.3	1.0	7.5	1.6	9.9
Type of Practice						
Solo	3.3	0.9	0.6	7.2	0.4	7.5
Non-solo	3.6	1.0	1.3	9.6	0.7	9.2
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	3.4	1.4	0.5	9.9	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	4.1	1.0	1.5	9.6	0.5	9.3
1,000,000 and over	2.9	0.6	0.7	7.0	0.7	7.8
Employment Status						
Self-employed	3.9	1.1	0.9	8.7	0.6	8.4
Employee	2.3	0.5	1.4	7.3	0.6	8.5
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	2.5	0.7	0.6	8.4	0.6	9.2
36-45 years	3.2	1.1	1.4	8.6	0.6	8.6
46-55 years	4.5	0.8	1.2	9.3	0.8	9.0
56-65 years	3.7	1.2	0.2	8.2	0.5	8.1
66 or more years	2.2	0.5	0.1	5.6	.	.

Source: 1989 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Excludes physicians in radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology, but otherwise includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 30 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Surgical Procedures per Week, 1989**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	0.10	0.08	0.16	0.21	0.11	0.36
Census Division						
New England	0.32	0.77	0.41	0.65	0.23	.
Middle Atlantic	0.22	0.09	0.26	0.50	0.15	0.77
East North Central	0.24	0.18	0.42	0.55	0.11	0.67
West North Central	0.38	0.30	0.69	0.79	.	.
South Atlantic	0.25	0.14	0.44	0.49	0.20	0.65
East South Central	0.53	0.14	0.90	1.02	.	.
West South Central	0.34	0.27	0.46	0.77	0.25	0.[illegible]
Mountain	0.43	0.38	0.87	0.83	.	.
Pacific	0.27	0.26	0.43	0.47	0.55	1.56
Type of Practice						
Solo	0.14	0.13	0.18	0.29	0.11	0.37
Non-solo	0.14	0.11	0.22	0.29	0.14	0.55
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	0.30	0.17	0.25	0.81	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	0.17	0.13	0.31	0.32	0.09	0.45
1,000,000 and over	0.13	0.14	0.16	0.28	0.19	0.57
Employment Status						
Self-employed	0.12	0.11	0.16	0.24	0.13	0.33
Employee	0.17	0.10	0.41	0.40	0.17	1.35
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	0.23	0.13	0.33	0.51	0.21	1.01
36-45 years	0.16	0.13	0.29	0.41	0.15	0.53
46-55 years	0.23	0.19	0.31	0.37	0.33	0.84
56-65 years	0.22	0.25	0.15	0.42	0.15	0.69
66 or more years	0.29	0.15	0.06	0.78	.	.

Table 31. **Mean Number of Surgical Procedures per Week, 1990**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	3.6	0.8	1.2	8.5	0.7	9.5
Census Division						
New England	2.3	0.4	0.6	5.6	1.3	.
Middle Atlantic	3.1	0.6	0.6	8.5	0.2	8.9
East North Central	3.9	1.1	1.0	9.3	0.5	10.4
West North Central	4.4	1.3	1.8	10.5	.	.
South Atlantic	3.6	0.1	1.8	8.3	0.7	9.4
East South Central	4.1	0.3	1.7	10.3	.	.
West South Central	3.9	0.8	1.6	8.7	0.4	8.8
Mountain	4.1	1.3	1.4	8.1	.	9.3
Pacific	3.2	1.3	1.2	7.5	1.4	8.6
Type of Practice						
Solo	3.3	0.8	1.3	7.3	0.7	7.5
Non-solo	3.7	0.8	1.2	9.5	0.7	10.6
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	3.4	1.0	0.6	9.7	0.6	9.4
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	4.0	0.8	1.6	9.2	0.8	9.6
1,000,000 and over	3.2	0.7	1.0	7.6	0.7	9.4
Employment Status						
Self-employed	4.1	1.0	1.4	8.8	0.8	9.1
Employee	2.3	0.5	0.8	7.3	0.6	10.6
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	2.5	0.7	0.8	7.3	1.3	10.4
36-45 years	3.7	1.0	1.9	9.1	0.9	11.7
46-55 years	4.3	0.8	0.9	9.4	0.5	8.6
56-65 years	3.5	0.7	0.4	7.6	0.3	7.7
66 or more years	2.0	0.8	0.2	5.2	.	.

Source: 1990 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Excludes physicians in radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology, but otherwise includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 31 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Surgical Procedures per Week, 1990[a]**

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	0.11	0.08	0.17	0.21	0.16	0.40
Census Division						
New England	0.33	0.22	0.43	0.65	0.62	.
Middle Atlantic	0.27	0.32	0.24	0.56	0.10	1.41
East North Central	0.26	0.21	0.38	0.51	0.26	0.93
West North Central	0.45	0.27	0.95	0.84	.	.
South Atlantic	0.26	0.05	0.48	0.49	0.20	0.81
East South Central	0.51	0.12	1.42	0.90	.	.
West South Central	0.33	0.23	0.74	0.55	0.36	1.01
Mountain	0.46	0.34	0.69	0.80	.	1.39
Pacific	0.23	0.18	0.31	0.48	0.74	0.92
Type of Practice						
Solo	0.16	0.12	0.32	0.28	0.23	0.49
Non-solo	0.14	0.10	0.20	0.29	0.20	0.55
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	0.31	0.15	0.24	0.86	0.44	0.80
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	0.17	0.12	0.32	0.29	0.22	0.56
1,000,000 and over	0.15	0.14	0.20	0.29	0.25	0.65
Employment Status						
Self-employed	0.13	0.10	0.22	0.23	0.22	0.39
Employee	0.17	0.10	0.25	0.41	0.23	1.15
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	0.27	0.15	0.29	0.80	0.71	1.12
36-45 years	0.18	0.15	0.34	0.33	0.32	0.86
46-55 years	0.23	0.16	0.26	0.40	0.17	0.71
56-65 years	0.22	0.14	0.23	0.39	0.14	0.56
66 or more years	0.25	0.23	0.17	0.69	.	.

Table 32. **Mean Number of Surgical Procedures per Week, 1983-1990**[a]

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All Physicians	3.3	3.2	3.0	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	1.4	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.2	0.9	0.8
Internal Medicine	0.7	0.8	0.7	1.1	1.5	1.1	1.0	1.2
Surgery	7.5	7.6	7.1	8.3	8.2	8.4	8.5	8.5
Pediatrics	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.7
Obstetrics/Gynecology	8.0	7.6	7.2	8.5	8.2	8.5	8.4	9.5
Census Division								
New England	2.9	3.0	2.4	2.7	2.9	3.1	2.6	2.3
Middle Atlantic	3.2	2.9	2.7	3.0	2.7	2.8	2.8	3.1
East North Central	3.9	3.6	2.7	3.8	4.2	4.0	3.5	3.9
West North Central	3.4	4.3	3.4	3.9	4.1	3.7	3.9	4.4
South Atlantic	3.1	3.3	3.1	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.7	3.6
East South Central	3.7	3.5	3.8	4.3	3.3	3.6	4.2	4.1
West South Central	3.7	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.8	3.9	4.0	3.9
Mountain	3.5	3.0	3.7	3.9	3.9	4.6	3.7	4.1
Pacific	2.8	2.5	2.7	3.1	3.4	3.3	3.5	3.2
Type of Practice								
Solo	3.2	3.0	2.9	3.2	3.5	3.7	3.3	3.3
Non-solo	3.4	3.4	3.1	3.7	3.5	3.4	3.6	3.7
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	3.3	3.4	3.2	3.4	3.7	3.6	3.4	3.4
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	3.8	3.7	3.3	4.1	3.8	4.1	4.1	4.0
1,000,000 and over	2.8	2.7	2.7	3.0	3.2	3.0	2.9	3.2
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	2.3	2.3	2.0	3.1	2.8	2.4	2.5	2.5
36-45 years	3.5	3.5	3.3	3.5	3.6	3.5	3.2	3.7
46-55 years	3.9	3.7	3.7	4.3	4.5	4.3	4.5	4.3
56-65 years	3.4	3.3	2.8	3.0	3.1	3.6	3.7	3.5
66 or more years	1.7	2.0	1.5	2.5	2.3	2.4	2.2	2.0

Source: 1983-1990, AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core surveys. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. Data, other than in specialty breakdown, include physicians in all specialties except psychiatry, radiology, anesthesiology, and pathology. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. This will cause figures to differ from those reported in previous editions of this volume. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

Table 32 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Surgical Procedures per Week, 1983-1990**[a]

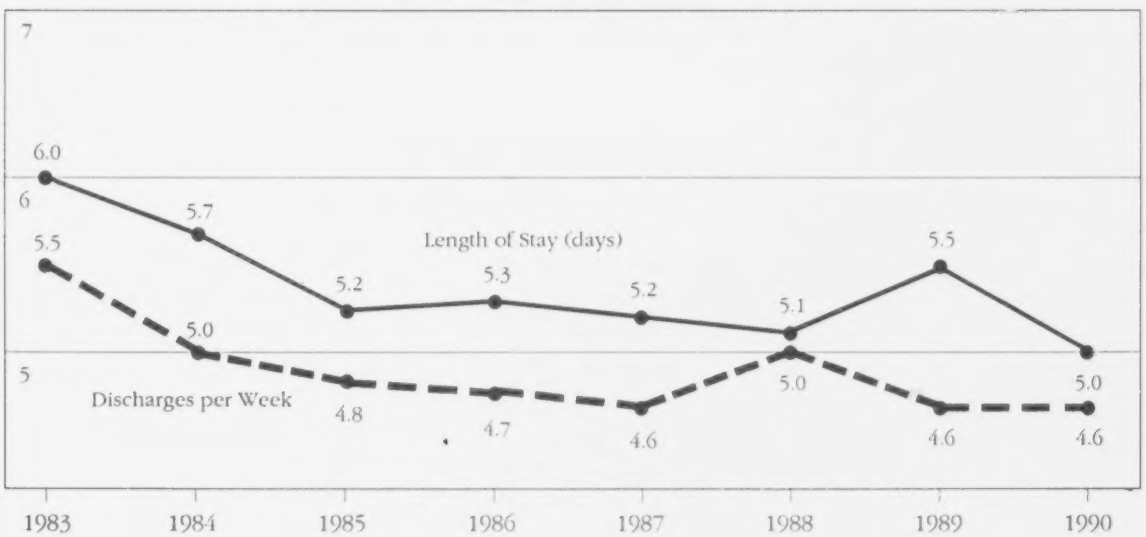
	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All Physicians	0.10	0.10	0.09	0.11	0.11	0.10	0.10	0.11
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	0.11	0.08	0.14	0.09	0.09	0.11	0.08	0.08
Internal Medicine	0.17	0.13	0.11	0.20	0.21	0.16	0.16	0.17
Surgery	0.19	0.19	0.18	0.25	0.21	0.20	0.21	0.21
Pediatrics	0.12	0.09	0.10	0.10	0.16	0.12	0.11	0.16
Obstetrics/Gynecology	0.31	0.27	0.27	0.35	0.31	0.28	0.36	0.40
Census Division								
New England	0.39	0.43	0.35	0.43	0.40	0.44	0.32	0.33
Midc'e Atlantic	0.27	0.31	0.20	0.27	0.23	0.22	0.22	0.27
East North Central	0.29	0.23	0.20	0.30	0.33	0.27	0.24	0.26
West North Central	0.36	0.42	0.35	0.41	0.45	0.38	0.38	0.45
South Atlantic	0.23	0.24	0.20	0.33	0.26	0.23	0.25	0.26
East South Central	0.39	0.38	0.50	0.51	0.44	0.48	0.53	0.51
West South Central	0.26	0.28	0.40	0.28	0.29	0.28	0.34	0.33
Mountain	0.60	0.34	0.37	0.41	0.38	0.46	0.43	0.46
Pacific	0.18	0.18	0.23	0.20	0.23	0.24	0.27	0.23
Type of Practice								
Solo	0.14	0.12	0.13	0.13	0.14	0.16	0.14	0.16
Non-solo	0.14	0.16	0.13	0.17	0.15	0.13	0.14	0.14
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	0.23	0.26	0.27	0.29	0.29	0.30	0.30	0.31
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	0.17	0.16	0.16	0.19	0.18	0.17	0.17	0.17
1,000,000 and over	0.14	0.14	0.12	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.13	0.15
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	0.23	0.21	0.20	0.35	0.29	0.23	0.23	0.27
36-45 years	0.19	0.21	0.17	0.17	0.18	0.17	0.16	0.18
46-55 years	0.23	0.20	0.23	0.27	0.24	0.22	0.23	0.23
56-65 years	0.20	0.19	0.18	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22
66 or more years	0.18	0.21	0.16	0.30	0.28	0.30	0.29	0.25

Hospital Utilization by Physicians

Physicians have a significant influence on the utilization of hospital resources. Two measures indicating the extent of hospital utilization of physicians' patients are the number of patients discharged from the hospital and the average length of their hospital stays.

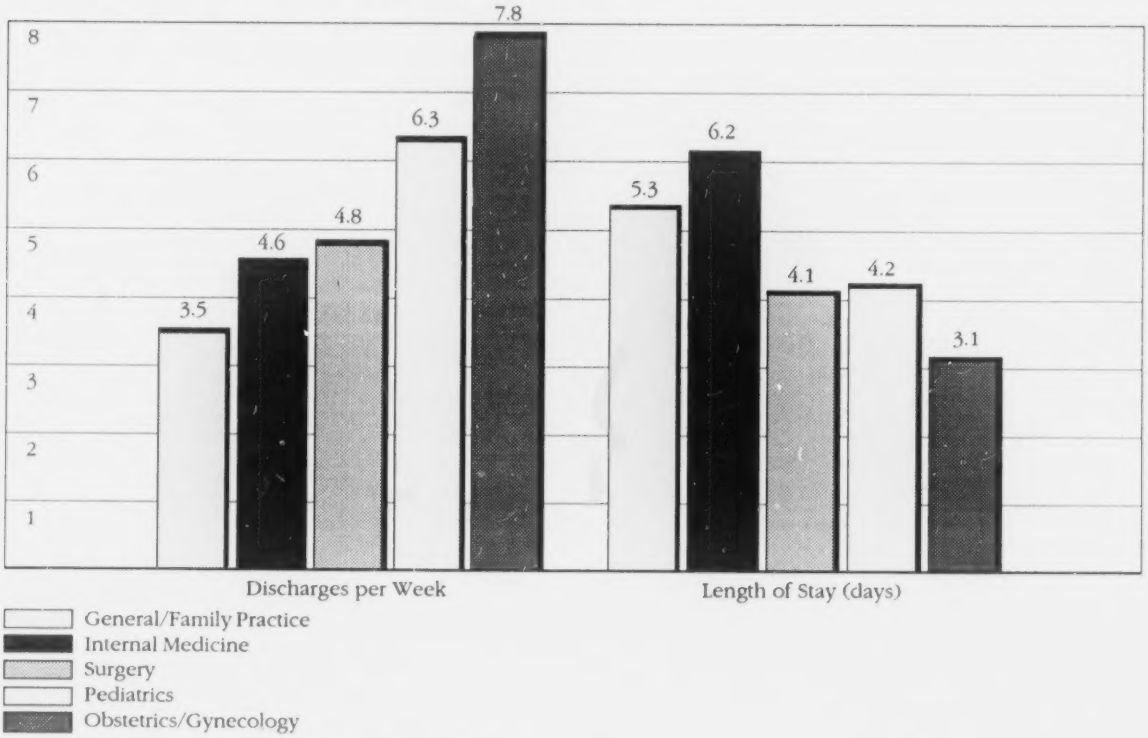
Declining hospital utilization is reflected in the trend for both the average number of discharges per physician per week and the length of stay of patients (see Figure 7). However, it appears that hospital utilization may be leveling off. Weekly discharges declined to 4.6 in 1989 after having increased from 4.6 to 5.0 during the period 1987 to 1988. Average length of stay increased from 5.2 to 5.5 between 1987 and 1989. Weekly discharges stayed at 4.6 in 1990 and average length of stay declined to 5.0. Figure 8 shows average discharge rates and lengths of stay of physicians by specialty. General/family practitioners have the fewest hospitalized patients, but their patients have the second longest average lengths of stay. At the other extreme, obstetricians/gynecologists have the most hospitalized patients and their patients have the shortest stays. Figure 9 indicates that geographic differences in average hospital lengths of stay are substantial.

Figure 7. **Average Hospital Discharges per Week and Length of Stay (in days) of Discharged Patients for All Physicians, 1983-1990[a]**



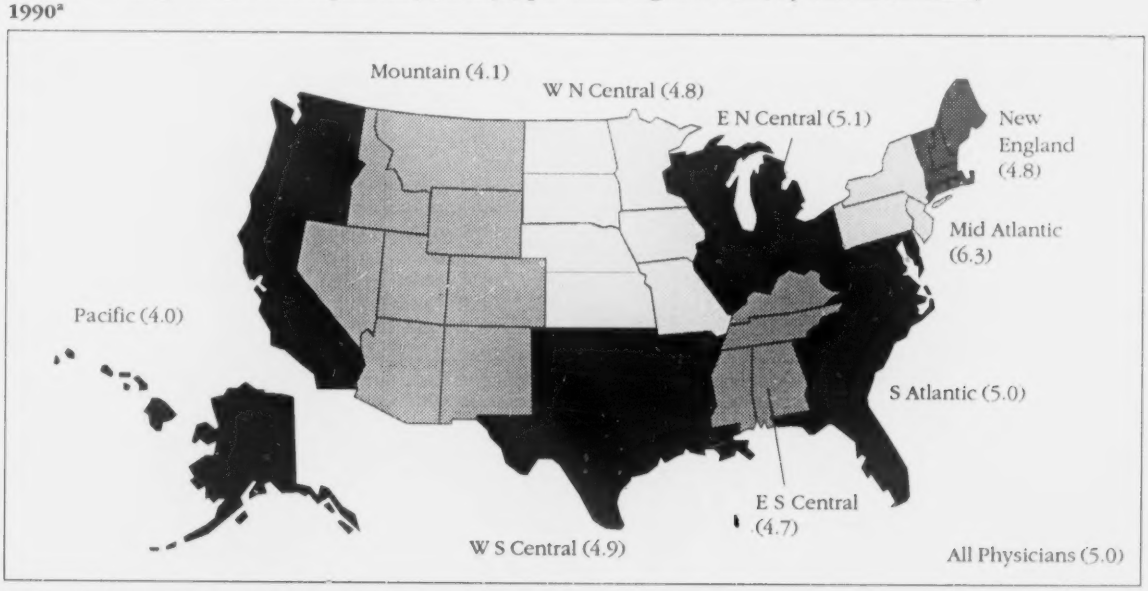
Source: AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System 1983-1990 core surveys.
a. Excludes physicians in psychiatry, radiology, anesthesiology, and pathology.

Figure 8. **Average Hospital Discharges per Week and Length of Stay (in days) of Discharged Patients, by Specialty, 1990[a]**



Source: AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System 1990 core survey.
a. Excludes physicians in psychiatry, radiology, anesthesiology, and pathology.

Figure 9. **Average Length of Hospital Stay (in days) per Discharged Patient, by Census Division, 1990[a]**



Source: AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System 1990 core survey.
a. Excludes physicians in psychiatry, radiology, anesthesiology, and pathology.

Table 33. **Mean Number of Patients Discharged from the Hospital per Week, 1989**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	4.6	3.4	5.2	5.1	5.5	7.5
Census Division						
New England	3.6	2.4	3.6	3.9	4.3	.
Middle Atlantic	4.2	2.3	4.9	5.1	3.7	6.6
East North Central	4.7	3.9	5.1	4.8	6.8	7.2
West North Central	5.1	4.7	5.2	5.7	.	.
South Atlantic	5.3	3.5	5.9	5.3	7.6	8.4
East South Central	6.5	5.0	9.4	7.3	.	.
West South Central	5.3	3.6	7.5	5.6	4.5	7.7
Mountain	4.3	3.4	4.6	5.3	.	.
Pacific	3.6	2.5	3.5	4.0	4.9	7.0
Type of Practice						
Solo	4.1	3.3	4.5	4.0	5.6	6.5
Non-solo	5.0	3.6	5.7	6.0	5.5	8.3
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	6.0	5.1	8.3	6.6	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	5.1	3.2	5.9	5.5	6.2	8.4
1,000,000 and over	3.9	2.5	4.4	4.3	4.9	6.6
Employment Status						
Self-employed	5.0	3.7	5.4	5.1	6.4	7.8
Employee	3.6	2.5	4.6	4.9	4.1	6.0
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	3.7	2.6	4.2	4.2	5.3	7.5
36-45 years	5.0	4.2	5.9	5.1	5.2	8.0
46-55 years	5.0	4.0	5.0	5.5	6.4	8.0
56-65 years	4.5	2.9	5.0	5.3	6.0	6.9
66 or more years	3.0	2.6	2.8	3.7	.	.

Source: 1989 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Excludes physicians in radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology, but otherwise includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 33 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Patients Discharged from the Hospital per Week, 1989**[a]

	All Physicians[b]	Specialty				
		General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	0.11	0.16	0.28	0.18	0.29	0.39
Census Division						
New England	0.42	0.37	0.69	0.51	0.89	.
Middle Atlantic	0.25	0.34	0.64	0.41	0.38	0.74
East North Central	0.22	0.34	0.46	0.37	0.84	0.98
West North Central	0.35	0.35	0.91	0.63	.	.
South Atlantic	0.29	0.40	0.78	0.47	0.88	0.99
East South Central	0.59	0.74	1.88	1.09	.	.
West South Central	0.37	0.51	1.48	0.59	0.62	1.18
Mountain	0.42	0.66	0.83	0.99	.	.
Pacific	0.23	0.54	0.41	0.38	0.59	0.75
Type of Practice						
Solo	0.15	0.25	0.43	0.22	0.53	0.45
Non-solo	0.15	0.20	0.36	0.27	0.35	0.58
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	0.35	0.39	1.39	0.74	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	0.17	0.23	0.43	0.27	0.49	0.61
1,000,000 and over	0.14	0.23	0.36	0.24	0.37	0.53
Employment Status						
Self-employed	0.13	0.20	0.34	0.20	0.39	0.43
Employee	0.19	0.25	0.46	0.40	0.40	0.80
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	0.23	0.24	0.60	0.47	0.88	0.95
36-45 years	0.19	0.27	0.46	0.34	0.43	0.68
46-55 years	0.21	0.54	0.44	0.34	0.63	0.74
56-65 years	0.26	0.32	0.93	0.38	0.76	0.90
66 or more years	0.23	0.38	0.42	0.48	.	.

Table 34. **Mean Number of Patients Discharged from the Hospital per Week, 1990**[a]

	All Physicians[b]	Specialty				
		General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	4.6	3.5	4.6	4.8	6.3	7.8
Census Division						
New England	4.3	3.5	3.3	3.7	7.5	.
Middle Atlantic	3.8	2.4	3.8	5.2	4.1	5.3
East North Central	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.8	6.5	8.9
West North Central	5.5	4.1	6.1	6.1	.	.
South Atlantic	4.8	3.1	5.1	4.4	9.7	8.7
East South Central	5.8	6.1	5.5	6.9	.	.
West South Central	5.1	3.7	6.6	5.4	4.3	8.7
Mountain	3.8	2.7	3.9	4.7	.	6.0
Pacific	4.1	2.1	4.3	3.7	5.3	7.9
Type of Practice						
Solo	4.1	3.4	4.5	4.0	5.6	6.6
Non-solo	4.9	3.7	4.7	5.4	6.5	8.5
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	5.5	4.8	5.8	5.8	8.4	8.9
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	4.9	3.3	5.1	5.4	6.8	8.3
1,000,000 and over	4.1	3.0	4.1	4.0	5.5	7.3
Employment Status						
Self-employed	5.0	3.9	4.9	4.9	7.2	8.6
Employee	3.5	2.5	3.8	4.5	4.8	5.4
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	4.2	2.9	5.0	3.8	8.3	5.4
36-45 years	4.8	3.9	5.0	4.7	5.9	9.6
46-55 years	5.1	3.9	5.0	5.8	6.3	7.3
56-65 years	4.2	3.4	3.2	4.2	6.5	7.8
66 or more years	2.9	2.7	3.0	3.5	.	4.3

Source: 1990 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.
a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.
b. Excludes physicians in radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology, but otherwise includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.
. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 34 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Patients Discharged from the Hospital per Week, 1990[a]**

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	0.12	0.23	0.23	0.16	0.56	0.47
Census Division						
New England	0.81	1.37	0.50	0.66	2.32	.
Middle Atlantic	0.21	0.48	0.37	0.47	0.66	0.81
East North Central	0.29	0.84	0.45	0.36	1.52	1.08
West North Central	0.44	0.36	1.22	0.84	.	.
South Atlantic	0.35	0.44	0.75	0.36	2.19	1.61
East South Central	0.42	0.91	0.76	0.80	.	.
West South Central	0.34	0.70	1.05	0.48	0.92	1.24
Mountain	0.38	0.57	0.64	0.88	.	0.85
Pacific	0.34	0.30	0.51	0.29	1.09	1.21
Type of Practice						
Solo	0.16	0.29	0.40	0.23	0.82	0.53
Non-solo	0.18	0.35	0.27	0.23	0.70	0.68
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	0.33	0.44	0.88	0.53	2.42	0.96
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	0.19	0.42	0.37	0.25	0.66	0.82
1,000,000 and over	0.18	0.31	0.30	0.23	0.88	0.62
Employment Status						
Self-employed	0.14	0.30	0.27	0.18	0.75	0.56
Employee	0.25	0.32	0.39	0.37	0.79	0.73
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	0.33	0.42	0.62	0.51	2.11	0.85
36-45 years	0.22	0.50	0.33	0.26	0.60	0.74
46-55 years	0.25	0.51	0.57	0.33	1.07	0.90
56-65 years	0.28	0.39	0.43	0.33	2.21	1.21
66 or more years	0.25	0.47	0.52	0.53	.	1.17

Table 35. **Mean Number of Patients Discharged from the Hospital per Week, 1983-1990**[a]

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All Physicians	5.5	5.0	4.8	4.7	4.6	5.0	4.6	4.6
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	4.5	4.0	3.9	3.3	3.3	3.6	3.4	3.5
Internal Medicine	5.2	4.6	4.7	4.8	4.8	5.3	5.2	4.6
Surgery	6.1	6.1	5.4	5.3	5.5	5.5	5.1	4.8
Pediatrics	5.8	5.7	5.1	6.1	5.8	4.9	5.5	6.3
Obstetrics/Gynecology	7.7	6.7	6.8	7.4	7.0	7.4	7.5	7.8
Census Division								
New England	6.0	4.0	3.7	4.2	3.5	3.9	3.6	4.3
Middle Atlantic	5.1	4.2	4.5	4.6	4.2	4.4	4.2	3.8
East North Central	6.1	6.3	5.2	5.0	4.5	4.9	4.7	4.7
West North Central	5.9	5.7	5.8	4.7	5.4	5.3	5.1	5.5
South Atlantic	5.4	5.1	4.9	5.0	4.9	5.4	5.3	4.8
East South Central	7.1	6.5	7.0	7.0	6.4	6.8	6.5	5.8
West South Central	6.7	5.8	5.9	5.6	5.0	5.6	5.3	5.1
Mountain	4.7	5.0	3.6	4.0	4.5	4.6	4.3	3.8
Pacific	4.0	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.9	4.4	3.6	4.1
Type of Practice								
Solo	4.8	4.4	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.5	4.1	4.1
Non-solo	6.1	5.5	5.2	5.1	4.9	5.3	5.0	4.9
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	7.1	6.8	6.1	5.5	6.0	5.6	6.0	5.5
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	6.0	5.3	4.9	5.5	5.0	5.2	5.1	4.9
1,000,000 and over	4.6	4.3	4.3	3.9	3.9	4.6	3.9	4.1
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	5.4	4.8	5.5	4.4	3.8	4.6	3.7	4.2
36-45 years	5.7	5.5	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.4	5.0	4.8
46-55 years	5.7	5.3	5.0	5.2	5.3	5.4	5.0	5.1
56-65 years	5.8	4.5	4.4	4.1	4.2	4.5	4.5	4.2
66 or more years	3.2	3.0	2.9	4.2	2.8	2.9	3.0	2.9

Source: 1983-1990, AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core surveys. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient eare physicians, excluding residents.

a. Data, other than in specialty breakdown, include physicians in all specialties except psychiatry, radiology, anesthesiology, and pathology. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. This will cause figures to differ from those reported in previous editions of this volume. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

Table 35 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Patients Discharged from the Hospital per Week, 1983-1990**[a]

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All Physicians	0.15	0.14	0.15	0.14	0.13	0.14	0.11	0.12
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	0.20	0.18	0.21	0.17	0.21	0.16	0.16	0.23
Internal Medicine	0.27	0.20	0.34	0.21	0.30	0.25	0.28	0.23
Surgery	0.20	0.19	0.19	0.22	0.20	0.23	0.18	0.16
Pediatrics	0.46	0.43	0.32	0.57	0.58	0.30	0.29	0.56
Obstetrics/Gynecology	0.41	0.33	0.33	0.46	0.35	0.31	0.39	0.47
Census Division								
New England	1.09	0.38	0.40	0.70	0.34	0.46	0.42	0.81
Middle Atlantic	0.45	0.26	0.35	0.48	0.36	0.33	0.25	0.21
East North Central	0.35	0.62	0.55	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.22	0.29
West North Central	0.36	0.33	0.59	0.45	0.40	0.33	0.35	0.44
South Atlantic	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.37	0.38	0.47	0.29	0.35
East South Central	0.57	0.53	0.54	0.67	0.62	0.72	0.59	0.42
West South Central	0.54	0.32	0.55	0.44	0.38	0.41	0.37	0.34
Mountain	0.58	0.68	0.39	0.37	0.41	0.44	0.42	0.38
Pacific	0.24	0.17	0.18	0.21	0.32	0.33	0.23	0.34
Type of Practice								
Solo	0.16	0.13	0.14	0.15	0.14	0.15	0.15	0.16
Non-solo	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.22	0.20	0.21	0.15	0.18
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	0.35	0.36	0.37	0.34	0.42	0.30	0.35	0.33
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	0.25	0.17	0.20	0.24	0.21	0.24	0.17	0.19
1,000,000 and over	0.21	0.25	0.24	0.19	0.18	0.19	0.14	0.18
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	0.47	0.47	0.58	0.29	0.31	0.41	0.23	0.33
36-45 years	0.28	0.33	0.29	0.25	0.27	0.29	0.19	0.22
46-55 years	0.24	0.22	0.21	0.25	0.26	0.26	0.21	0.25
56-65 years	0.38	0.19	0.25	0.27	0.22	0.21	0.26	0.28
66 or more years	0.23	0.22	0.22	0.67	0.20	0.23	0.23	0.25

Table 36. **Mean Number of Days for Hospital Stays per Patient, 1989**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	5.5	5.4	6.2	4.2	8.2	3.2
Census Division						
New England	5.3	.	6.8	4.2	.	.
Middle Atlantic	8.1	7.6	7.0	4.2	25.5	3.5
East North Central	5.4	6.1	6.8	4.1	5.0	3.3
West North Central	4.4	3.9	5.3	4.0	.	.
South Atlantic	5.0	4.9	6.3	4.0	6.1	3.1
East South Central	5.0	5.0	5.7	5.1	.	.
West South Central	4.5	4.4	4.9	3.9	4.8	3.3
Mountain	4.9	3.7	7.2	4.8	.	.
Pacific	4.5	6.6	4.9	4.2	3.0	2.9
Type of Practice						
Solo	4.8	5.5	6.4	3.9	2.9	3.1
Non-solo	5.9	5.2	6.1	4.4	10.8	3.2
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	4.1	4.0	5.2	3.9	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	6.1	6.5	6.2	4.2	13.0	3.2
1,000,000 and over	5.2	4.9	6.4	4.2	4.7	3.2
Employment Status						
Self-employed	4.7	5.1	6.0	4.1	2.8	3.1
Employee	8.6	6.8	6.9	4.5	20.4	3.6
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	4.9	4.5	5.7	4.4	4.0	3.2
36-45 years	6.2	5.0	6.3	4.0	14.0	3.1
46-55 years	5.0	4.6	6.4	4.5	3.6	3.0
56-65 years	5.0	7.0	5.9	4.0	3.0	3.2
66 or more years	4.9	5.1	6.5	4.1	.	.

Source: 1989 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Excludes physicians in radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology, but otherwise includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 36 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Days for Hospital Stays per Patient, 1989**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	0.45	0.37	0.23	0.13	3.64	0.06
Census Division						
New England	0.50	.	1.36	0.43	.	.
Middle Atlantic	2.60	1.11	0.33	0.30	18.96	0.20
East North Central	0.36	0.95	0.67	0.38	1.59	0.16
West North Central	0.26	0.16	0.33	0.33	.	.
South Atlantic	0.24	0.27	0.42	0.21	1.45	0.11
East South Central	0.40	0.44	0.84	0.95	.	.
West South Central	0.30	0.22	0.36	0.27	1.26	0.16
Mountain	0.67	0.34	2.67	0.93	.	.
Pacific	0.41	2.21	0.26	0.26	0.51	0.14
Type of Practice						
Solo	0.15	0.46	0.36	0.14	0.08	0.10
Non-solo	0.75	0.56	0.29	0.20	5.21	0.08
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	0.11	0.16	0.32	0.18	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	0.98	0.84	0.40	0.21	7.99	0.09
1,000,000 and over	0.18	0.21	0.29	0.17	0.73	0.10
Employment Status						
Self-employed	0.09	0.28	0.20	0.13	0.08	0.07
Employee	2.11	1.53	0.77	0.38	11.32	0.18
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	0.30	0.18	0.30	0.77	0.89	0.18
36-45 years	1.14	0.31	0.43	0.19	8.01	0.10
46-55 years	0.21	0.25	0.33	0.26	0.55	0.12
56-65 years	0.37	1.51	0.31	0.18	0.17	0.12
66 or more years	0.23	0.45	0.55	0.31	.	.

Table 37. **Mean Number of Days for Hospital Stays per Patient, 1990[a]**

—	All Physicians[b]	Specialty				
		General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	5.0	5.3	6.2	4.1	4.2	3.1
Census Division						
New England	4.8	.	5.5	4.8	.	.
Middle Atlantic	6.3	6.8	7.7	4.8	4.0	3.0
East North Central	5.1	6.5	6.0	3.9	5.7	3.1
West North Central	4.8	4.5	6.5	3.7	.	.
South Atlantic	5.0	6.0	5.9	4.4	3.7	3.1
East South Central	4.7	4.6	5.5	4.1	.	.
West South Central	4.9	4.8	6.5	3.5	.	4.1
Mountain	4.1	.	5.4	4.2	.	.
Pacific	4.0	4.2	5.1	3.4	3.7	2.4
Type of Practice						
Solo	5.0	5.1	6.6	3.7	2.8	2.9
Non-solo	5.0	5.6	5.9	4.4	4.7	3.2
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	4.7	5.7	5.2	3.9	.	3.0
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	4.9	4.8	6.0	4.1	4.5	3.0
1,000,000 and over	5.2	5.6	6.4	4.1	4.2	3.1
Employment Status						
Self-employed	4.8	5.1	6.3	4.0	3.3	3.0
Employee	5.6	6.3	5.5	4.7	6.3	3.5
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	5.6	5.5	5.4	3.8	3.8	2.9
36-45 years	5.0	5.2	6.0	4.3	4.5	2.7
46-55 years	4.8	4.7	6.5	4.2	4.4	3.0
56-65 years	4.6	5.5	6.0	3.7	3.4	3.7
66 or more years	5.7	6.5	8.1	3.7	.	.

Source: 1990 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.
a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.
b. Excludes physicians in radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology, but otherwise includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.
. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 37 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Days for Hospital Stays per Patient, 1990[a]**

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	0.12	0.28	0.21	0.11	0.34	0.16
Census Division						
New England	0.39	.	0.28	0.93	.	.
Middle Atlantic	0.43	0.88	0.55	0.42	0.50	0.16
East North Central	0.34	1.21	0.55	0.19	1.16	0.15
West North Central	0.32	0.27	0.99	0.30	.	.
South Atlantic	0.20	0.58	0.34	0.24	0.68	0.16
East South Central	0.31	0.37	0.67	0.30	.	.
West South Central	0.40	0.22	1.07	0.20	.	1.02
Mountain	0.28	.	0.47	0.71	.	.
Pacific	0.20	0.25	0.54	0.21	0.73	0.18
Type of Practice						
Solo	0.20	0.25	0.38	0.17	0.14	0.10
Non-solo	0.14	0.48	0.24	0.15	0.46	0.26
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	0.42	0.90	0.40	0.27	.	0.19
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	0.14	0.23	0.28	0.15	0.58	0.21
1,000,000 and over	0.19	0.36	0.33	0.20	0.48	0.28
Employment Status						
Self-employed	0.12	0.20	0.24	0.12	0.23	0.12
Employee	0.33	1.06	0.42	0.29	0.97	0.62
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	0.64	0.68	0.35	0.34	1.30	0.17
36-45 years	0.19	0.62	0.31	0.24	0.59	0.11
46-55 years	0.17	0.17	0.46	0.18	0.67	0.12
56-65 years	0.18	0.44	0.41	0.20	0.45	0.67
66 or more years	0.49	0.92	1.59	0.33	.	.

Table 38. **Mean Number of Days for Hospital Stays per Patient, 1983-1990**[a]

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All Physicians	6.0	5.7	5.2	5.3	5.2	5.1	5.5	5.0
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	7.7	5.2	5.1	5.3	5.4	5.2	5.4	5.3
Internal Medicine	7.3	7.4	6.5	6.6	6.4	6.4	6.2	6.2
Surgery	4.7	4.4	4.3	4.0	4.2	4.1	4.2	4.1
Pediatrics	4.4	5.1	4.5	4.7	5.9	4.6	8.2	4.2
Obstetrics/Gynecology	3.8	3.8	3.4	3.5	3.3	3.1	3.2	3.1
Census Division								
New England	7.4	7.1	5.2	5.5	5.1	4.6	5.3	4.8
Middle Atlantic	6.6	6.6	5.8	6.1	5.5	5.9	8.1	6.3
East North Central	5.9	5.5	5.7	5.5	6.9	4.9	5.4	5.1
West North Central	5.7	5.2	5.1	4.8	5.4	6.2	4.4	4.8
South Atlantic	6.6	6.1	5.2	5.4	4.8	4.5	5.0	5.0
East South Central	5.3	5.8	5.9	6.5	5.9	4.8	5.0	4.7
West South Central	4.9	5.9	4.5	4.7	4.3	6.0	4.5	4.9
Mountain	5.5	4.7	4.1	4.5	4.1	4.1	4.9	4.1
Pacific	5.8	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.2	4.8	4.5	4.0
Type of Practice								
Solo	5.3	5.1	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.6	4.8	5.0
Non-solo	6.7	6.3	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.9	5.0
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	5.1	4.6	4.4	4.9	4.6	4.5	4.1	4.7
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	5.8	5.4	5.2	5.4	5.6	4.8	6.1	4.9
1,000,000 and over	6.5	6.3	5.4	5.3	5.0	5.6	5.2	5.2
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	5.7	5.3	5.0	5.1	4.7	5.0	4.9	5.6
36-45 years	5.5	5.9	5.2	5.2	5.5	5.2	6.2	5.0
46-55 years	6.1	5.6	5.0	5.2	5.1	5.3	5.0	4.8
56-65 years	6.7	5.4	5.1	5.2	4.9	4.8	5.0	4.6
66 or more years	7.1	6.8	5.7	6.5	5.6	5.3	4.9	5.7

Source: 1983-1990, AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core surveys. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. Data, other than in specialty breakdown, include physicians in all specialties except psychiatry, radiology, anesthesiology, and pathology. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. This will cause figures to differ from those reported in previous editions of this volume. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

Table 38 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Number of Days for Hospital Stays per Patient, 1983-1990**[a]

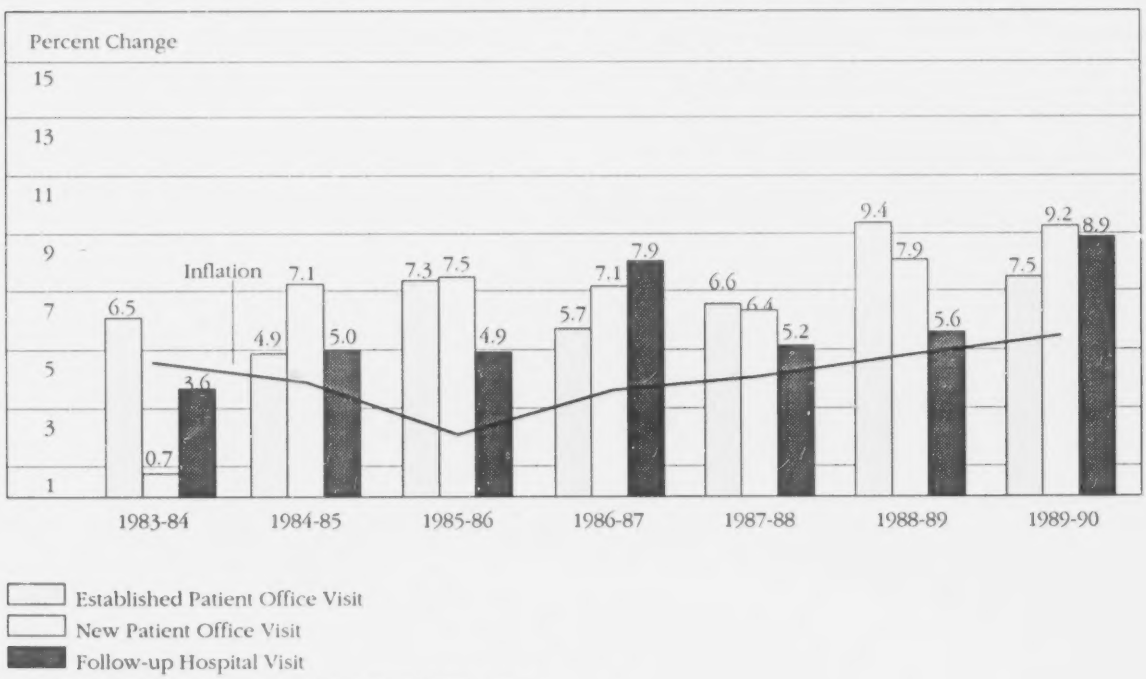
	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All Physicians	0.27	0.18	0.10	0.14	0.20	0.16	0.45	0.12
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	1.19	0.18	0.19	0.21	0.40	0.34	0.37	0.28
Internal Medicine	0.32	0.48	0.18	0.26	0.26	0.41	0.23	0.21
Surgery	0.13	0.10	0.14	0.10	0.11	0.10	0.13	0.11
Pediatrics	0.31	0.65	0.43	0.62	1.48	0.65	3.64	0.34
Obstetrics/Gynecology	0.09	0.08	0.07	0.14	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.16
Census Division								
New England	1.62	1.18	0.44	0.57	0.45	0.20	0.50	0.39
Middle Atlantic	0.33	0.31	0.30	0.45	0.20	0.38	2.60	0.43
East North Central	0.22	0.22	0.30	0.26	1.08	0.19	0.36	0.34
West North Central	0.37	0.28	0.37	0.29	0.65	0.75	0.26	0.32
South Atlantic	0.85	0.55	0.22	0.35	0.14	0.12	0.24	0.20
East South Central	0.25	0.58	0.53	1.11	0.89	0.27	0.40	0.31
West South Central	0.17	1.00	0.15	0.22	0.20	1.01	0.30	0.40
Mountain	0.45	0.64	0.24	0.36	0.34	0.36	0.67	0.28
Pacific	1.18	0.21	0.24	0.18	0.16	0.41	0.41	0.20
Type of Practice								
Solo	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.10	0.15	0.17	0.15	0.20
Non-solo	0.50	0.35	0.17	0.24	0.34	0.24	0.75	0.14
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	0.14	0.09	0.12	0.34	0.40	0.38	0.11	0.42
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	0.36	0.25	0.17	0.23	0.42	0.15	0.98	0.14
1,000,000 and over	0.49	0.33	0.16	0.19	0.12	0.30	0.18	0.19
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	0.28	0.37	0.21	0.32	0.23	0.30	0.30	0.64
36-45 years	0.17	0.39	0.20	0.22	0.47	0.28	1.14	0.19
46-55 years	0.79	0.33	0.19	0.23	0.23	0.36	0.21	0.17
56-65 years	0.79	0.20	0.22	0.26	0.15	0.24	0.37	0.18
66 or more years	0.69	0.87	0.30	0.89	0.67	0.64	0.23	0.49

Fees for Physician Visits

Office visits with new and established patients and follow-up hospital visits are the most commonly billed physician services and account for a large proportion of physician revenue. Fees reported for these services are "current usual fees" and, therefore, may not reflect discounts allowed under some circumstances, such as assigned Medicare services and services to patients covered by preferred provider organization contracts.

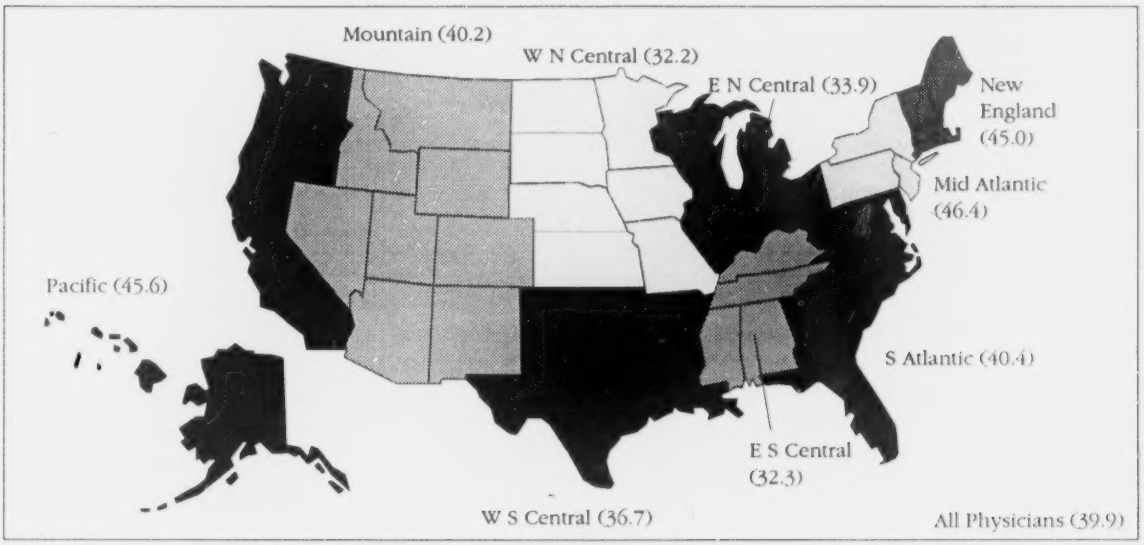
As shown in Figure 10, fees for all three types of visits increased faster than the 5.4% rate of inflation (measured by the All Items Consumer Price Index for Urban Consumers) from 1989 to 1990. Figure 11 indicates that in 1990 the average fee for an established patient office visit reached $39.9 for the entire nation, but ranged from $32.2 in the West North Central states to $46.4 in the Middle Atlantic states. Variations in relative fees by type of visit and specialty, using the national average established patient office visit fee as the base of comparison, are shown in Figure 12.

Figure 10. **Percent Change in Average Fees for Selected Types of Visits for All Physicians, 1983-1990[a]**



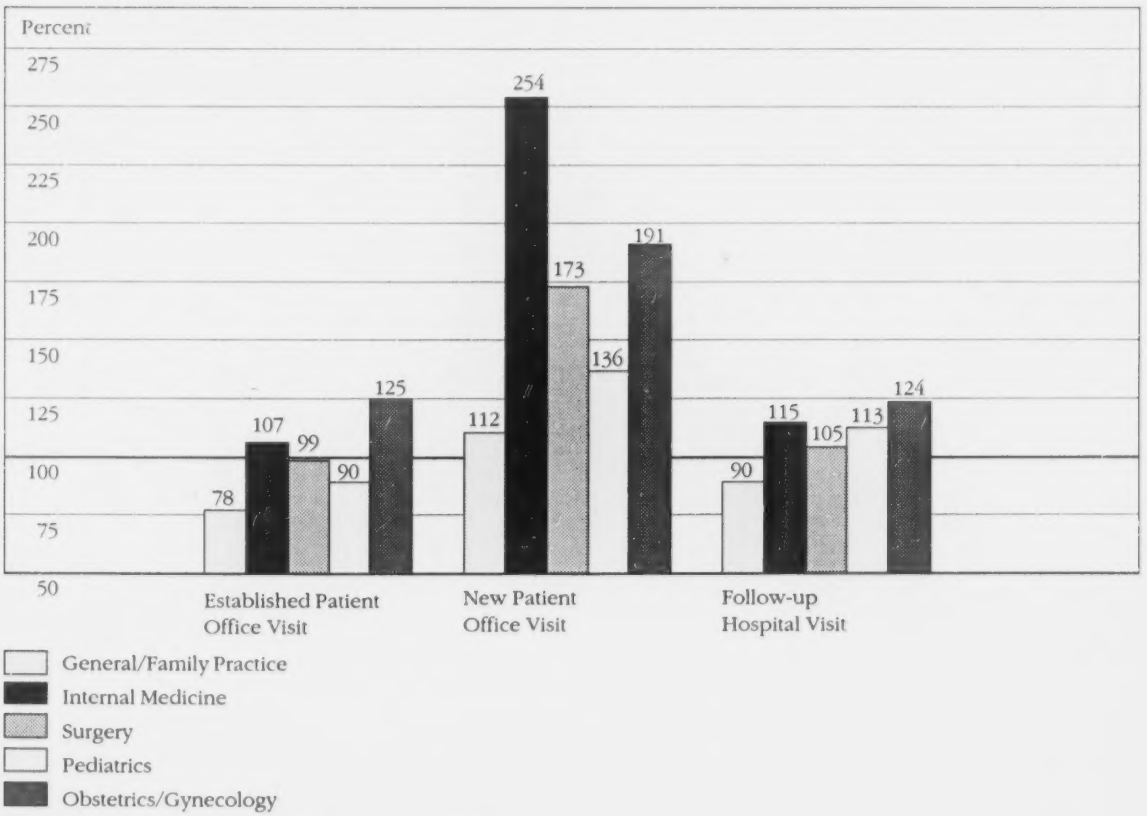
Source: AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System 1983-1990 core surveys.
a. Excludes physicians in psychiatry, radiology, anesthesiology, and pathology.

Figure 11. **Average Fee (in dollars) for an Established Patient Office Visit, by Census Division, 1990[a]**



Source: AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System 1990 core survey.
a. Excludes physicians in psychiatry, radiology, anesthesiology, and pathology.

Figure 12. **Average Fees by Type of Visit and Specialty as a Percent of the Average Fee for an Established Patient Office Visit for All Physicians, 1990[a]**



Source: AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System 1990 core survey.
a. Excludes physicians in psychiatry, radiology, anesthesiology, and pathology.

Table 39. **Mean Fee (in dollars) for an Office Visit with an Established Patient, 1989**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	37.09	28.95	39.26	37.15	32.34	46.05
Census Division						
New England	43.82	31.68	45.31	47.22	.	.
Middle Atlantic	42.73	30.14	41.38	42.81	32.33	54.59
East North Central	32.11	26.24	34.05	32.14	27.89	41.42
West North Central	31.19	25.39	38.46	28.88	.	.
South Atlantic	37.20	29.35	37.90	37.78	32.16	49.10
East South Central	30.35	24.00	33.80	32.08	.	.
West South Central	33.86	27.43	34.57	34.12	34.01	39.56
Mountain	32.56	29.62	35.67	30.53	.	.
Pacific	41.96	35.64	46.73	41.18	35.87	50.79
Type of Practice						
Solo	36.44	28.25	38.62	38.15	31.96	44.94
Non-solo	37.66	29.69	39.77	36.17	32.59	47.07
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	27.05	24.15	29.91	29.65	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	34.52	28.36	36.52	34.55	31.22	43.26
1,000,000 and over	41.90	33.22	42.75	41.50	33.81	50.43
Employment Status						
Self-employed	36.45	28.57	38.37	37.14	31.97	45.43
Employee	40.38	30.67	44.18	37.23	33.70	50.10
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	37.45	29.82	37.38	40.44	34.87	49.20
36-45 years	37.17	29.37	38.04	37.85	32.36	46.41
46-55 years	37.73	30.43	39.20	36.05	33.05	46.20
56-65 years	36.46	28.30	40.91	37.82	31.32	42.30
66 or more years	36.03	26.73	45.31	35.27	.	.

Source: 1989 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Excludes physicians in radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology, but otherwise includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 39 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Fee (in dollars) for an Office Visit with an Established Patient, 1989**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	0.35	0.39	0.88	0.60	0.64	1.11
Census Division						
New England	1.74	1.86	3.04	4.66	.	.
Middle Atlantic	0.96	1.64	1.36	1.43	1.13	3.13
East North Central	0.60	0.98	1.46	1.07	0.92	1.85
West North Central	1.19	0.91	4.14	1.59	.	.
South Atlantic	0.77	0.85	1.33	1.50	1.40	3.29
East South Central	0.86	0.96	2.49	1.56	.	.
West South Central	0.78	0.72	1.65	1.29	3.56	2.15
Mountain	0.94	1.28	2.33	1.79	.	.
Pacific	1.25	0.89	4.74	1.22	1.13	3.06
Type of Practice						
Solo	0.48	0.53	1.06	0.95	1.11	1.63
Non-solo	0.51	0.56	1.31	0.74	0.78	1.53
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	0.61	0.55	2.37	1.62	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	0.42	0.45	0.92	0.84	0.98	1.48
1,000,000 and over	0.62	0.85	1.50	0.90	0.92	1.68
Employment Status						
Self-employed	0.33	0.43	0.69	0.66	0.70	1.16
Employee	1.26	0.88	4.19	1.38	1.54	3.58
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	0.96	0.98	2.13	2.35	2.61	2.63
36-45 years	0.53	0.62	0.97	0.98	1.04	2.08
46-55 years	0.64	0.99	1.10	1.02	1.69	1.97
56-65 years	0.76	0.83	1.89	1.48	0.89	2.38
66 or more years	1.91	1.17	8.14	1.79	.	.

Table 40. **Mean Fee (in dollars) for an Office Visit with an Established Patient, 1990**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	39.87	31.24	42.75	39.60	35.73	49.80
Census Division						
New England	44.97	.	45.37	45.44	.	.
Middle Atlantic	46.35	32.28	47.53	45.42	38.24	61.29
East North Central	33.92	27.16	37.49	33.68	30.05	41.87
West North Central	32.24	26.92	35.51	32.17	.	.
South Atlantic	40.36	31.04	42.82	39.49	34.06	50.96
East South Central	32.26	25.15	32.57	34.84	.	.
West South Central	36.73	29.75	40.73	36.01	38.65	42.65
Mountain	40.15	37.22	42.06	39.32	.	.
Pacific	45.59	37.70	47.55	47.44	41.65	60.17
Type of Practice						
Solo	39.59	30.45	42.29	41.13	35.52	48.36
Non-solo	40.10	32.04	43.11	38.26	35.82	50.80
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	29.36	26.24	31.02	32.17	27.76	35.60
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	36.63	31.11	38.46	35.89	32.67	46.90
1,000,000 and over	45.71	34.94	48.10	45.47	39.89	54.92
Employment Status						
Self-employed	39.51	30.68	42.96	39.15	34.44	49.97
Employee	41.57	33.39	41.69	42.62	39.47	48.90
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	40.50	31.49	41.67	46.35	34.09	54.16
36-45 years	40.18	32.65	41.81	39.86	38.35	46.51
46-55 years	39.88	30.97	42.44	37.33	34.06	52.91
56-65 years	40.50	30.24	48.18	41.53	33.51	50.24
66 or more years	36.34	29.36	41.48	38.32	.	46.88

Source: 1990 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Excludes physicians in radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology, but otherwise includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 40 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Fee (in dollars) for an Office Visit with an Established Patient, 1990**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	0.37	0.45	0.80	0.62	0.89	1.33
Census Division						
New England	1.51	.	3.27	3.18	.	.
Middle Atlantic	1.08	1.20	1.80	2.02	2.28	3.74
East North Central	0.57	0.52	1.57	0.83	1.05	2.47
West North Central	0.95	1.37	3.19	1.52	.	.
South Atlantic	1.02	0.97	1.80	1.49	1.58	3.66
East South Central	0.87	1.11	1.87	1.38	.	.
West South Central	1.08	1.62	3.13	1.37	5.00	3.46
Mountain	1.69	4.24	4.29	2.48	.	.
Pacific	0.95	0.79	2.21	2.17	1.82	2.89
Type of Practice						
Solo	0.52	0.57	1.08	1.00	1.59	2.22
Non-solo	0.52	0.70	1.15	0.79	1.08	1.63
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	0.67	0.80	2.28	1.49	0.73	2.75
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	0.46	0.69	1.12	0.75	1.22	1.71
1,000,000 and over	0.63	0.77	1.15	1.09	1.35	2.07
Employment Status						
Self-employed	0.38	0.49	0.89	0.66	0.79	1.46
Employee	1.09	1.15	1.82	1.91	2.61	3.23
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	1.08	1.38	1.79	3.18	1.52	4.41
36-45 years	0.64	0.79	1.15	1.18	1.76	2.07
46-55 years	0.70	0.95	1.42	0.90	1.63	3.15
56-65 years	0.91	1.01	3.42	1.48	1.21	2.42
66 or more years	0.98	1.14	2.73	1.96	.	3.30

Table 41. **Mean Fee (in dollars) for an Office Visit with an Established Patient, 1983-1990[a]**

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All Physicians	25.11	26.74	28.05	30.10	31.82	33.91	37.09	39.87
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	19.86	20.76	22.06	23.48	24.52	26.46	28.95	31.24
Internal Medicine	28.18	30.37	30.43	34.03	34.11	36.50	39.26	42.75
Surgery	24.58	26.07	28.73	29.66	32.51	33.93	37.15	39.60
Pediatrics	23.37	24.65	25.13	27.37	31.57	30.01	32.34	35.73
Obstetrics/Gynecology	29.42	31.49	32.41	34.81	36.65	40.95	46.05	49.80
Census Division								
New England	26.87	28.53	30.10	33.14	34.59	37.56	43.82	44.97
Middle Atlantic	28.34	30.46	32.51	34.85	37.13	40.44	42.73	46.35
East North Central	21.31	23.70	24.90	27.33	27.37	28.61	32.11	33.92
West North Central	19.10	21.87	21.75	24.06	26.28	28.69	31.19	32.24
South Atlantic	26.04	25.76	27.11	29.69	30.64	33.93	37.20	40.36
East South Central	21.16	21.14	23.13	23.55	26.86	26.94	30.35	32.26
West South Central	24.16	26.43	25.72	28.46	30.25	30.25	33.86	36.73
Mountain	22.43	24.58	25.39	27.05	29.24	32.01	32.56	40.15
Pacific	29.30	31.52	33.61	34.93	37.52	38.79	41.96	45.59
Type of Practice								
Solo	24.68	26.38	27.96	29.54	31.54	33.18	36.44	39.59
Non-solo	25.55	27.16	28.16	30.67	32.09	34.56	37.66	40.10
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	18.98	19.39	20.70	22.11	23.04	24.28	27.05	29.36
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	23.64	25.26	25.44	27.50	29.51	31.10	34.52	36.63
1,000,000 and over	28.37	30.09	32.21	34.73	36.38	38.77	41.90	45.71
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	25.84	25.76	27.94	28.53	29.90	33.95	37.45	40.50
36-45 years	25.27	27.99	28.92	30.89	31.93	34.07	37.17	40.18
46-55 years	25.53	26.82	27.42	30.13	32.35	35.05	37.73	39.88
56-65 years	24.09	25.89	28.35	31.13	31.88	33.59	36.46	40.50
66 or more years	24.27	24.81	26.07	26.85	31.96	30.79	36.03	36.34

Source: 1983-1990, AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core surveys. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. Data, other than in the specialty breakdown, are based on responses from physicians in all specialties except radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. This will cause figures to differ from those reported in previous editions of this volume. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

Table 41 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Fee (in dollars) for an Office Visit with an Established Patient , 1983-1990**[a]

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All Physicians	0.23	0.24	0.26	0.29	0.26	0.31	0.35	0.37
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	0.31	0.30	0.29	0.31	0.31	0.39	0.39	0.45
Internal Medicine	0.63	0.67	0.60	0.83	0.59	0.75	0.88	0.80
Surgery	0.40	0.41	0.57	0.52	0.47	0.49	0.60	0.62
Pediatrics	0.60	0.53	0.50	0.61	0.88	0.62	0.64	0.89
Obstetrics/Gynecology	0.72	0.73	0.65	0.75	0.81	0.87	1.11	1.33
Census Division								
New England	0.82	0.99	1.37	1.19	0.99	1.13	1.74	1.51
Middle Atlantic	0.71	0.70	0.83	0.76	0.78	1.17	0.96	1.08
East North Central	0.35	0.47	0.62	0.88	0.54	0.47	0.60	0.57
West North Central	0.46	0.74	0.60	0.73	0.82	0.87	1.19	0.95
South Atlantic	0.67	0.47	0.51	0.69	0.51	0.61	0.77	1.02
East South Central	0.75	0.62	0.79	0.81	0.91	0.61	0.86	0.87
West South Central	0.53	0.82	0.52	0.58	0.71	0.69	0.78	1.08
Mountain	0.90	0.95	0.80	0.78	0.79	0.92	0.94	1.69
Pacific	0.61	0.73	0.69	0.74	0.78	0.71	1.25	0.95
Type of Practice								
Solo	0.31	0.33	0.37	0.42	0.38	0.39	0.48	0.52
Non-solo	0.35	0.36	0.37	0.39	0.37	0.46	0.51	0.52
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	0.46	0.41	0.42	0.41	0.42	0.38	0.61	0.67
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	0.33	0.34	0.29	0.36	0.35	0.33	0.42	0.46
1,000,000 and over	0.36	0.39	0.45	0.49	0.43	0.55	0.62	0.63
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	0.73	0.70	0.59	0.61	0.65	0.87	0.96	1.08
36-45 years	0.40	0.48	0.46	0.45	0.44	0.46	0.53	0.64
46-55 years	0.51	0.48	0.49	0.59	0.55	0.77	0.64	0.70
56-65 years	0.45	0.47	0.69	0.93	0.61	0.63	0.76	0.91
66 or more years	0.64	0.66	0.80	0.69	0.94	0.78	1.91	0.98

Table 42. **Mean Fee (in dollars) for an Office Visit with a New Patient, 1989**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	68.52	41.92	93.54	63.65	45.64	69.54
Census Division						
New England	74.10	42.82	91.25	73.43	.	.
Middle Atlantic	81.58	41.33	97.25	79.37	39.66	74.85
East North Central	55.86	40.90	74.52	50.61	38.91	60.69
West North Central	50.57	36.74	74.57	44.81	.	.
South Atlantic	70.52	40.99	101.17	63.18	46.74	75.85
East South Central	57.55	35.67	96.90	47.47	.	.
West South Central	60.36	39.28	92.22	54.92	52.22	57.07
Mountain	64.81	39.12	113.17	49.04	.	.
Pacific	81.97	54.38	102.79	82.55	54.83	92.90
Type of Practice						
Solo	66.97	42.07	91.67	65.46	45.43	68.46
Non-solo	69.88	41.77	95.00	61.89	45.77	70.55
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	42.82	35.18	57.54	46.71	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	64.38	41.44	94.06	55.74	44.93	64.89
1,000,000 and over	78.45	47.52	97.55	75.84	47.28	75.76
Employment Status						
Self-employed	67.19	41.74	92.81	62.63	43.56	67.44
Employee	75.39	42.77	97.59	70.15	53.34	83.10
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	65.81	40.94	79.16	62.89	.	77.24
36-45 years	71.68	43.46	93.24	65.98	48.60	70.41
46-55 years	71.83	45.77	101.25	62.20	45.35	68.42
56-65 years	63.44	39.39	94.97	64.92	39.94	65.30
66 or more years	58.66	38.26	82.54	57.18	.	.

Source: 1989 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Excludes physicians in radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology, but otherwise includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 42 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Fee (in dollars) for an Office Visit with a New Patient, 1989**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	0.87	0.90	2.21	1.26	1.56	1.63
Census Division						
New England	2.92	3.75	5.21	5.61	.	.
Middle Atlantic	2.43	2.51	4.71	3.48	1.31	3.86
East North Central	1.46	2.86	3.73	1.84	1.90	2.82
West North Central	2.63	2.41	9.14	3.35	.	.
South Atlantic	2.15	1.52	5.39	2.92	4.53	5.12
East South Central	3.31	2.39	11.53	2.22	.	.
West South Central	2.42	2.37	8.72	2.92	7.33	2.52
Mountain	5.03	2.02	20.88	3.03	.	.
Pacific	2.33	2.96	5.09	4.16	4.52	4.62
Type of Practice						
Solo	1.32	1.47	3.79	1.93	2.95	2.33
Non-solo	1.15	1.06	2.64	1.64	1.79	2.27
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	1.37	1.29	5.72	2.65	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	1.18	1.25	3.41	1.40	2.36	1.95
1,000,000 and over	1.44	1.92	3.08	2.25	2.31	2.49
Employment Status						
Self-employed	0.93	1.02	2.46	1.34	1.56	1.59
Employee	2.32	1.82	4.79	3.52	4.40	6.19
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	2.43	1.60	5.39	4.16	.	5.35
36-45 years	1.43	1.72	3.09	2.16	2.71	3.05
46-55 years	1.88	2.46	5.01	2.18	4.05	2.86
56-65 years	1.82	1.62	5.38	3.08	1.37	2.98
66 or more years	2.91	2.38	10.47	3.74	.	.

Table 43. **Mean Fee (in dollars) for an Office Visit with a New Patient, 1990**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	74.84	44.66	101.37	68.86	54.27	76.06
Census Division						
New England	79.57	.	99.96	73.53	.	.
Middle Atlantic	90.15	44.98	108.06	85.40	58.53	97.66
East North Central	62.70	39.41	91.19	55.85	50.40	63.08
West North Central	54.47	36.65	80.39	49.20	.	.
South Atlantic	74.71	43.51	99.22	65.17	51.71	75.01
East South Central	58.92	37.21	84.56	50.75	.	.
West South Central	68.13	42.06	108.02	60.02	60.69	60.68
Mountain	67.87	46.55	94.89	62.85	.	.
Pacific	92.13	56.97	116.27	95.70	56.98	99.65
Type of Practice						
Solo	74.04	45.35	99.61	70.24	52.94	76.92
Non-solo	75.50	43.94	102.71	67.67	54.95	75.49
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	45.46	38.32	57.97	48.46	.	56.36
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	69.05	43.21	94.97	60.29	52.73	68.80
1,000,000 and over	87.66	50.76	112.05	83.06	58.53	85.87
Employment Status						
Self-employed	73.95	44.37	102.04	66.87	49.73	75.52
Employee	79.03	45.81	98.07	82.51	68.07	78.90
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	71.57	41.99	93.81	75.76	44.11	76.28
36-45 years	76.79	45.23	100.54	67.78	63.53	68.87
46-55 years	76.64	47.60	101.77	65.11	48.48	84.86
56-65 years	70.69	42.84	102.45	71.99	50.95	74.51
66 or more years	72.41	43.99	114.61	77.61	.	79.72

Source: 1990 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Excludes physicians in radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology, but otherwise includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 43 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Fee (in dollars) for an Office Visit with a New Patient, 1990**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	1.00	0.88	2.31	1.56	2.60	3.13
Census Division						
New England	4.00	.	9.54	7.03	.	.
Middle Atlantic	3.01	2.64	5.58	4.44	6.53	15.03
East North Central	1.88	1.61	5.47	2.24	6.93	4.06
West North Central	2.60	2.35	9.26	3.27	.	.
South Atlantic	2.23	1.71	4.98	3.04	5.53	4.57
East South Central	2.56	2.84	6.40	2.66	.	.
West South Central	2.86	1.96	8.66	3.41	11.72	3.87
Mountain	3.79	4.49	10.62	5.70	.	.
Pacific	3.17	2.48	6.06	6.59	5.69	6.36
Type of Practice						
Solo	1.59	1.35	3.72	2.59	4.45	6.77
Non-solo	1.28	1.12	2.94	1.90	3.21	2.52
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	1.41	1.61	5.66	2.89	.	4.66
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	1.25	1.17	3.03	1.66	4.23	2.36
1,000,000 and over	1.75	1.70	3.55	2.98	3.78	5.80
Employment Status						
Self-employed	1.08	1.00	2.54	1.56	2.30	3.57
Employee	2.66	1.83	5.67	5.93	7.69	5.98
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	2.70	2.60	5.63	6.29	2.42	4.62
36-45 years	1.59	1.37	3.19	2.24	5.37	3.20
46-55 years	2.05	2.42	4.45	2.44	4.21	9.81
56-65 years	2.22	1.77	5.77	4.30	4.34	4.59
66 or more years	4.31	2.46	16.07	7.66	.	7.01

Table 44. **Mean Fee (in dollars) for an Office Visit with a New Patient, 1983-1990**[a]

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All Physicians	48.08	48.43	51.87	55.75	59.69	63.51	68.52	74.84
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	30.22	29.98	31.72	34.61	36.19	38.51	41.92	44.66
Internal Medicine	69.54	68.95	74.00	79.19	83.45	86.89	93.54	101.37
Surgery	42.67	44.49	48.28	50.20	53.95	59.70	63.65	68.86
Pediatrics	35.62	35.37	34.55	40.00	48.29	44.69	45.64	54.27
Obstetrics/Gynecology	47.87	46.85	51.62	52.98	56.61	61.60	69.54	76.06
Census Division								
New England	49.50	48.00	49.91	52.24	63.82	65.52	74.10	79.57
Middle Atlantic	53.96	54.26	58.65	65.62	68.40	73.44	81.58	90.15
East North Central	41.08	43.28	42.68	47.35	50.64	51.45	55.86	62.70
West North Central	37.16	36.10	43.28	43.07	51.07	51.38	50.57	54.47
South Atlantic	47.19	46.78	49.13	54.96	58.29	65.13	70.52	74.71
East South Central	37.75	34.75	41.37	39.79	48.63	48.45	57.55	58.92
West South Central	42.23	46.06	49.96	51.86	51.71	53.58	60.36	68.13
Mountain	42.56	44.53	44.69	49.52	53.24	62.90	64.81	67.87
Pacific	63.25	63.15	68.86	73.80	75.75	81.09	81.97	92.13
Type of Practice								
Solo	45.55	46.53	50.73	54.71	58.24	61.29	66.97	74.04
Non-solo	50.68	50.62	53.13	56.81	61.04	65.51	69.88	75.50
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	31.07	32.23	32.28	34.95	37.02	39.83	42.82	45.46
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	44.54	45.01	47.93	50.43	55.85	57.41	64.38	69.05
1,000,000 and over	56.36	55.95	60.36	66.34	69.30	74.61	78.45	87.66
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	51.14	47.02	52.30	53.50	53.89	63.81	65.81	71.57
36-45 years	48.87	51.75	54.02	58.14	61.63	67.00	71.68	76.79
46-55 years	49.04	48.43	52.27	55.06	61.66	65.48	71.83	76.64
56-65 years	44.19	45.01	49.41	57.93	58.30	60.00	63.44	70.69
66 or more years	45.37	44.23	46.97	45.96	54.88	50.76	58.66	72.41

Source: 1983-1990, AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core surveys. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. Data, other than in the specialty breakdown, are based on responses from physicians in all specialties except radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. This will cause figures to differ from those reported in previous editions of this volume. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

Table 44 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Fee (in dollars) for an Office Visit with a New Patient, 1983-1990**[a]

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All Physicians	0.71	0.64	0.72	0.81	0.79	0.81	0.87	1.00
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	0.75	0.69	0.72	0.99	0.86	0.92	0.90	0.88
Internal Medicine	2.11	1.89	2.22	2.12	2.01	1.88	2.21	2.31
Surgery	0.93	0.90	1.01	1.09	1.14	1.32	1.26	1.56
Pediatrics	1.68	1.23	1.17	2.15	2.18	1.64	1.56	2.60
Obstetrics/Gynecology	1.76	0.99	1.11	1.20	1.16	1.22	1.63	3.13
Census Division								
New England	2.64	2.35	2.52	2.47	4.31	2.59	2.92	4.00
Middle Atlantic	1.88	1.88	1.88	2.25	2.13	2.43	2.43	3.01
East North Central	1.48	1.33	1.37	1.61	1.58	1.44	1.46	1.88
West North Central	1.90	1.77	2.53	2.26	2.51	2.38	2.63	2.60
South Atlantic	1.66	1.43	1.44	2.00	1.69	1.78	2.15	2.23
East South Central	1.72	1.52	2.48	1.88	2.23	2.07	3.31	2.56
West South Central	1.37	1.83	2.60	2.23	2.13	1.81	2.42	2.86
Mountain	3.10	2.31	2.20	2.59	2.64	3.40	5.03	3.79
Pacific	2.43	1.99	2.17	2.66	2.47	2.89	2.33	3.17
Type of Practice								
Solo	0.96	0.85	0.97	1.16	1.15	1.12	1.32	1.59
Non-solo	1.04	0.98	1.07	1.14	1.10	1.16	1.15	1.28
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	1.09	1.05	0.96	1.38	1.10	1.39	1.37	1.41
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	0.89	0.83	0.98	0.97	1.10	0.95	1.18	1.25
1,000,000 and over	1.27	1.11	1.19	1.42	1.30	1.42	1.44	1.75
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	2.21	1.90	1.85	2.30	1.99	2.32	2.43	2.70
36-45 years	1.12	1.20	1.20	1.22	1.30	1.32	1.43	1.59
46-55 years	1.46	1.29	1.51	1.69	1.59	1.79	1.88	2.05
56-65 years	1.34	1.27	1.73	2.52	1.99	1.86	1.82	2.22
66 or more years	3.14	1.96	2.20	1.57	2.56	2.04	2.91	4.31

Table 45. **Mean Fee (in dollars) for a Follow-up Hospital Visit, 1989**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	39.68	34.09	40.83	39.31	40.80	41.64
Census Division						
New England	42.83	34.38	43.00	45.62	.	.
Middle Atlantic	45.85	36.17	45.55	45.70	38.20	53.47
East North Central	34.25	29.92	35.99	31.67	36.81	39.86
West North Central	30.67	28.90	34.26	26.74	.	.
South Atlantic	41.49	33.41	41.88	43.11	44.86	45.62
East South Central	30.66	28.51	31.53	30.34	.	.
West South Central	37.89	35.87	38.81	35.20	40.47	37.48
Mountain	36.16	37.25	38.16	29.60	.	.
Pacific	46.22	44.71	46.13	46.27	50.77	41.76
Type of Practice						
Solo	40.04	33.64	40.92	42.36	40.22	42.01
Non-solo	39.37	34.57	40.76	36.35	41.15	41.34
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	30.64	29.45	32.41	30.31	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	36.29	33.15	37.41	34.41	38.83	36.52
1,000,000 and over	45.42	39.36	45.14	46.61	43.69	47.81
Employment Status						
Self-employed	39.31	33.93	40.91	39.37	40.24	40.65
Employee	41.74	35.00	40.40	38.84	42.86	48.36
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	38.18	33.64	37.08	38.82	.	.
36-45 years	40.58	35.13	41.29	40.83	41.84	41.20
46-55 years	40.98	35.72	42.01	38.82	40.88	45.42
56-65 years	37.68	32.00	40.46	39.09	38.50	33.55
66 or more years	36.72	33.10	37.76	34.69	.	.

Source: 1989 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Excludes physicians in radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology, but otherwise includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 45 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Fee (in dollars) for a Follow-up Hospital Visit, 1989**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	0.39	0.63	0.67	0.82	1.25	1.48
Census Division						
New England	1.51	1.74	2.32	3.61	.	.
Middle Atlantic	1.12	1.77	1.88	1.92	2.11	4.60
East North Central	0.78	1.33	1.17	1.61	3.23	3.11
West North Central	1.05	1.06	3.72	1.52	.	.
South Atlantic	0.99	1.30	1.39	2.47	3.22	3.96
East South Central	0.83	1.33	1.52	1.77	.	.
West South Central	1.05	2.10	1.90	2.16	2.73	2.70
Mountain	1.58	3.39	2.44	2.85	.	.
Pacific	1.08	2.19	1.68	1.90	4.77	3.76
Type of Practice						
Solo	0.59	0.86	1.12	1.26	1.75	2.12
Non-solo	0.52	0.91	0.82	1.04	1.68	2.08
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	0.74	0.98	1.95	1.90	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	0.48	0.81	0.80	0.94	1.70	1.94
1,000,000 and over	0.67	1.36	1.05	1.43	2.01	2.27
Employment Status						
Self-employed	0.41	0.66	0.74	0.88	1.33	1.49
Employee	1.14	1.83	1.52	2.23	3.16	5.64
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	0.96	1.25	1.85	2.39	.	.
36-45 years	0.63	1.15	0.94	1.59	1.95	2.51
46-55 years	0.88	1.53	1.44	1.60	3.29	2.92
56-65 years	0.77	1.13	1.60	1.37	1.71	2.22
66 or more years	1.48	1.95	3.26	2.56	.	.

Table 46. **Mean Fee (in dollars) for a Follow-up Hospital Visit, 1990**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	43.23	35.81	45.85	41.85	45.20	49.43
Census Division						
New England	44.13	.	46.26	44.45	.	.
Middle Atlantic	48.60	36.13	49.44	48.11	47.90	.
East North Central	38.45	34.98	40.94	39.15	37.24	33.99
West North Central	36.43	28.29	42.70	35.47	.	.
South Atlantic	44.39	34.97	45.47	43.56	53.94	43.34
East South Central	32.53	28.70	34.03	30.10	.	.
West South Central	42.44	39.12	49.46	37.06	.	.
Mountain	45.48	.	44.86	37.29	.	.
Pacific	48.43	42.49	50.01	48.61	50.21	.
Type of Practice						
Solo	43.13	36.99	45.75	43.03	41.51	46.73
Non-solo	43.32	34.58	45.93	40.93	46.89	51.52
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	34.19	30.50	36.31	37.17	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	39.36	34.60	40.90	36.14	44.13	45.63
1,000,000 and over	49.38	40.84	51.51	50.08	48.86	53.69
Employment Status						
Self-employed	42.92	35.83	46.14	41.03	43.38	48.61
Employee	44.90	35.73	44.23	47.57	51.24	.
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	44.64	36.44	47.22	42.48	.	.
36-45 years	44.39	36.94	47.08	41.35	49.92	44.68
46-55 years	41.88	35.88	42.79	39.97	38.01	55.96
56-65 years	42.01	33.85	47.03	44.44	38.64	45.28
66 or more years	43.44	35.31	45.41	50.89	.	.

Source: 1990 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Excludes physicians in radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology, but otherwise includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 46 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Fee (in dollars) for a Follow-up Hospital Visit, 1990**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	0.46	0.67	0.83	0.91	1.71	2.16
Census Division						
New England	1.75	.	2.61	4.96	.	.
Middle Atlantic	1.27	1.64	1.76	2.86	4.25	.
East North Central	0.84	1.42	1.64	1.77	3.64	2.35
West North Central	1.55	0.98	4.93	3.02	.	.
South Atlantic	1.19	1.31	1.72	2.39	5.70	4.07
East South Central	1.06	2.68	1.04	1.37	.	.
West South Central	1.45	2.79	4.28	1.83	.	.
Mountain	2.60	.	3.64	3.90	.	.
Pacific	1.18	1.76	2.17	2.59	4.27	.
Type of Practice						
Solo	0.67	1.02	1.25	1.49	2.03	2.73
Non-solo	0.63	0.87	1.11	1.15	2.29	3.21
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	1.22	1.06	3.22	3.02	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	0.60	0.97	1.12	0.94	2.56	2.80
1,000,000 and over	0.75	1.25	1.17	1.69	2.62	2.99
Employment Status						
Self-employed	0.49	0.70	0.93	0.93	1.63	2.26
Employee	1.32	2.05	1.65	3.36	5.08	.
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	1.37	1.88	2.15	4.11	.	.
36-45 years	0.78	1.15	1.34	1.49	3.29	2.90
46-55 years	0.81	1.53	1.17	1.35	1.90	4.99
56-65 years	1.14	1.43	3.12	2.31	2.28	3.95
66 or more years	1.94	1.93	3.28	6.40	.	.

Table 47. **Mean Fee (in dollars) for a Follow-up Hospital Visit, 1983-1990**[a]

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All Physicians	29.04	30.08	31.59	33.13	35.73	35.57	39.68	43.23
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	24.62	24.80	26.80	27.04	31.29	31.42	34.09	35.81
Internal Medicine	31.65	33.61	34.06	35.19	37.33	38.67	40.83	45.85
Surgery	28.29	29.26	30.69	33.42	35.97	38.20	39.31	41.85
Pediatrics	27.71	29.55	30.69	33.32	35.70	38.36	40.80	45.20
Obstetrics/Gynecology	31.59	30.81	33.56	34.82	37.92	40.07	41.64	49.43
Census Division								
New England	26.88	31.02	30.01	30.72	35.83	39.75	42.83	44.13
Middle Atlantic	31.84	36.78	37.96	38.20	41.96	43.43	45.85	48.60
East North Central	26.73	27.35	28.87	30.80	30.84	32.39	34.25	38.45
West North Central	22.07	23.57	24.03	26.54	29.17	30.52	30.67	36.43
South Atlantic	29.18	29.59	30.65	34.26	36.82	40.13	41.49	44.39
East South Central	21.81	22.53	24.60	26.33	29.37	28.58	30.66	32.53
West South Central	29.54	28.45	30.85	31.21	34.21	35.33	37.89	42.44
Mountain	25.11	27.19	29.70	30.30	31.80	32.58	36.16	45.48
Pacific	36.17	34.68	36.52	38.38	42.23	42.76	46.22	48.43
Type of Practice								
Solo	29.86	30.67	32.31	33.73	35.71	38.27	40.04	43.13
Non-solo	28.23	29.46	30.84	32.55	35.75	36.98	39.37	43.32
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	22.17	23.19	24.57	25.18	28.08	28.44	30.64	34.19
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	26.53	27.28	27.88	29.68	32.94	34.91	36.29	39.36
1,000,000 and over	33.65	34.64	36.63	38.65	40.67	42.34	45.42	49.38
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	29.24	29.28	30.74	33.46	34.94	37.84	38.18	44.64
36-45 years	29.03	30.41	33.21	33.55	35.80	37.92	40.58	44.39
46-55 years	29.54	30.27	30.68	33.23	36.49	38.44	40.98	41.88
56-65 years	28.96	30.43	30.56	33.57	35.86	36.54	37.68	42.01
66 or more years	26.93	28.00	30.70	29.03	33.13	35.20	36.72	43.44

Source: 1983-1990, AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core surveys. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. Data, other than in the specialty breakdown, are based on responses from physicians in all specialties except radiology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, and pathology. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. This will cause figures to differ from those reported in previous editions of this volume. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

Table 47 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Fee (in dollars) for a Follow-up Hospital Visit, 1983-1990**[a]

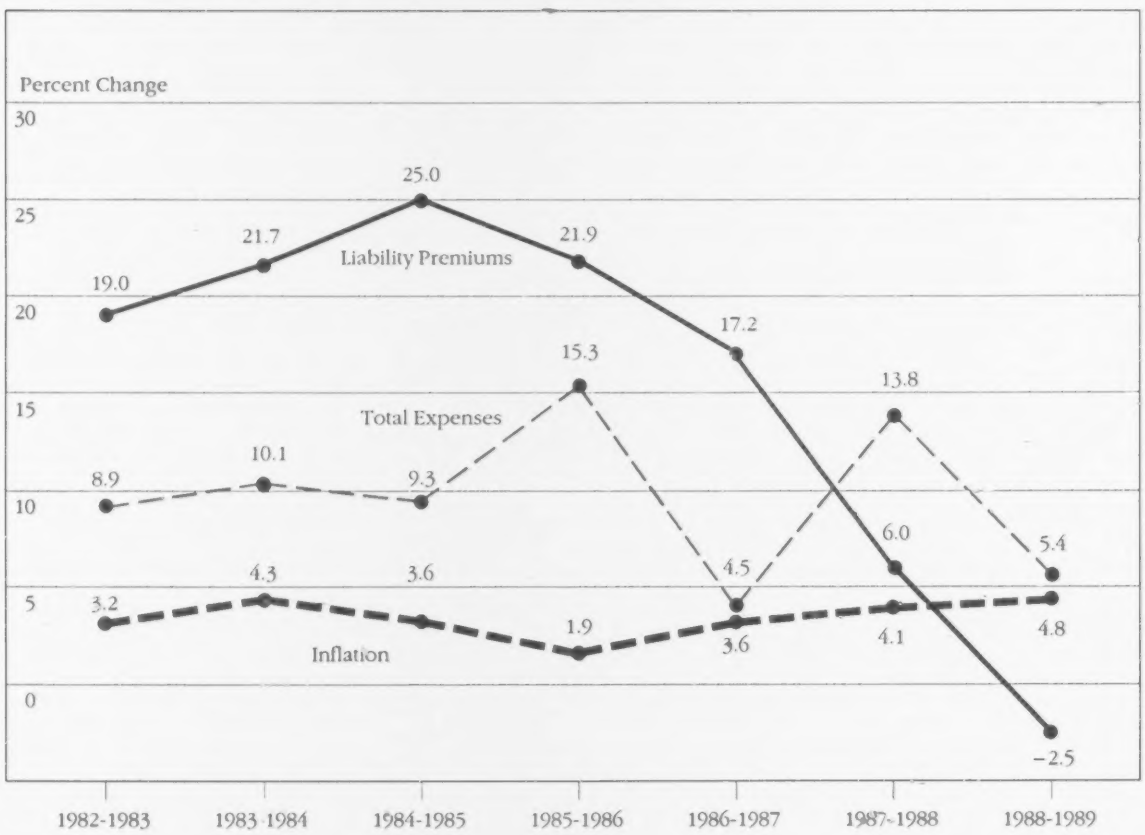
	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
All Physicians	0.39	0.35	0.36	0.36	0.39	0.38	0.39	0.46
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	0.63	0.48	0.49	0.50	0.68	0.52	0.63	0.67
Internal Medicine	0.86	0.80	0.73	0.57	0.67	0.59	0.67	0.83
Surgery	0.70	0.62	0.67	0.80	0.82	0.79	0.82	0.91
Pediatrics	1.17	1.00	1.08	1.07	1.13	1.40	1.25	1.71
Obstetrics/Gynecology	1.76	1.17	1.41	1.40	1.48	1.33	1.48	2.16
Census Division								
New England	1.11	1.51	1.24	0.96	1.20	1.40	1.51	1.75
Middle Atlantic	1.04	1.17	1.02	1.12	1.13	1.08	1.12	1.27
East North Central	0.97	0.82	1.02	0.93	0.69	0.67	0.78	0.84
West North Central	1.06	0.87	0.91	1.06	1.22	1.13	1.05	1.55
South Atlantic	0.90	0.75	0.75	0.96	1.06	0.95	0.99	1.19
East South Central	0.76	0.76	1.12	1.19	1.22	0.97	0.83	1.06
West South Central	1.14	0.79	0.84	0.70	0.88	1.12	1.05	1.45
Mountain	1.43	1.11	1.60	1.12	1.25	1.29	1.58	2.60
Pacific	1.25	0.95	0.92	0.76	1.14	0.95	1.08	1.18
Type of Practice								
Solo	0.62	0.50	0.51	0.50	0.56	0.57	0.59	0.67
Non-solo	0.49	0.48	0.51	0.51	0.54	0.50	0.52	0.63
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	0.63	0.56	0.68	0.68	0.94	0.67	0.74	1.22
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	0.53	0.47	0.42	0.46	0.53	0.54	0.48	0.60
1,000,000 and over	0.68	0.58	0.62	0.58	0.61	0.59	0.67	0.75
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	1.06	0.91	0.82	1.05	1.05	1.06	0.96	1.37
36-45 years	0.65	0.61	0.71	0.59	0.62	0.62	0.63	0.78
46-55 years	0.81	0.66	0.64	0.66	0.82	0.76	0.88	0.81
56-65 years	1.00	0.78	0.80	0.96	0.97	0.86	0.77	1.14
66 or more years	1.05	1.33	1.10	1.03	1.11	1.35	1.48	1.94

Professional Expenses of Physicians

Professional expense information reported from the Socioeconomic Monitoring System refers to tax-deductible professional expenses from medical practice, not including contributions made for physicians into deferred compensation plans. Non-solo practitioners are asked to report only their share of their practices' total expenses. The major components of total expenses are defined as follows: (1) office expenses, including rent or mortgage for office space, telephones, and utilities; (2) total nonphysician payroll expenses, including fringe benefits; (3) medical materials and supplies, such as drugs, x-ray films, and outside expenses for laboratory work and other services; (4) depreciation, lease, and rent for medical equipment; and (5) professional medical liability insurance premiums. Other expenses are not separately itemized in the surveys.

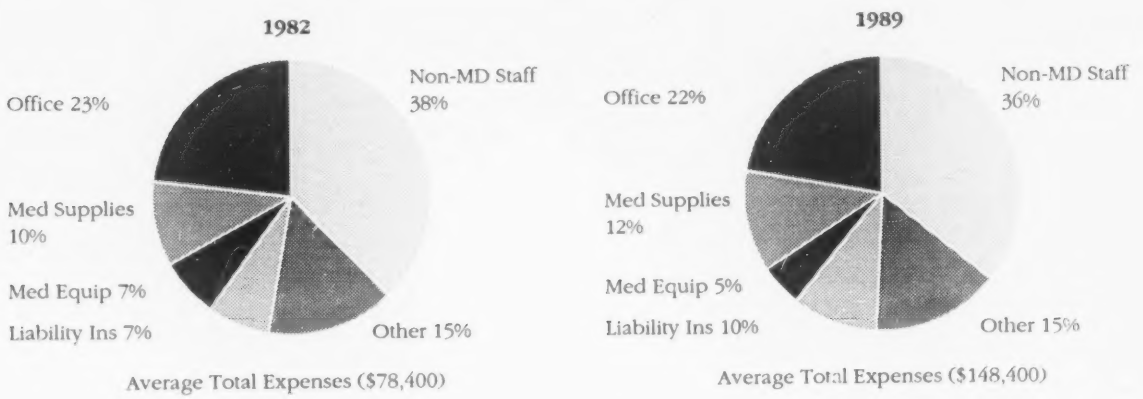
Figure 13 shows that total professional expenses increased 5.4% between 1988 and 1989. Professional liability insurance premiums decreased 2.5%. However, premiums as a percent of total professional expenses increased from 7% in 1982 to 10% in 1989 (see Figure 14). Geographic patterns in average total professional expenses are indicated in Figure 15.

Figure 13. **Percent Change in Average Total Professional Expenses and Professional Liability Insurance Premiums of Self-Employed Physicians, 1982-1989**



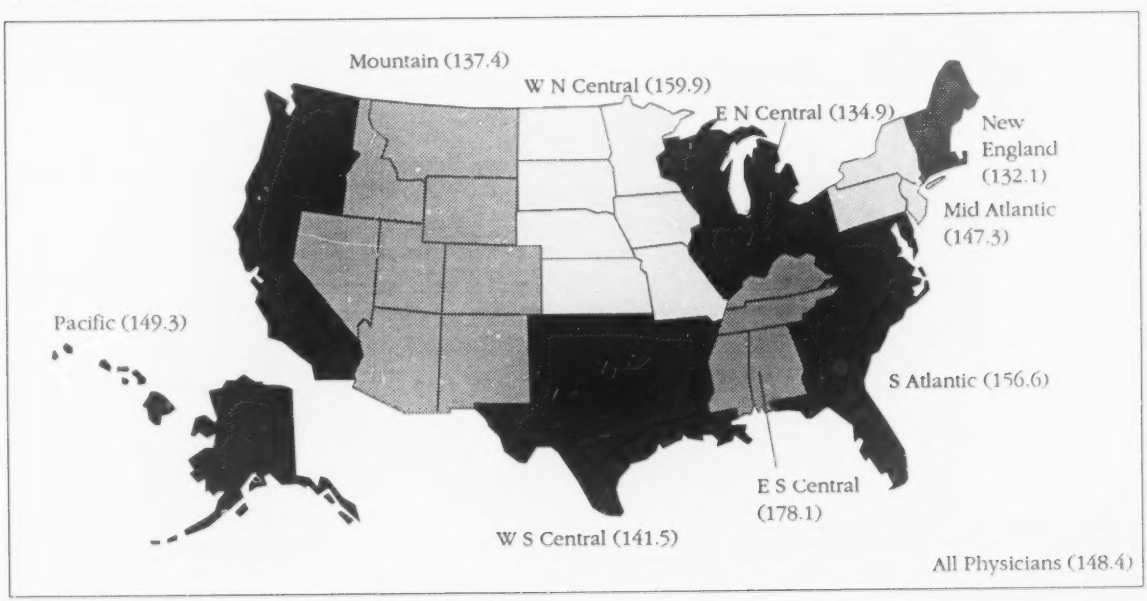
Source: AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System 1983-1990 core surveys.

Figure 14. **Distribution of Average Professional Expenses of Self-Employed Physicians, 1982 and 1989**



Source: AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System 1983 and 1990 core surveys.

Figure 15. **Average Professional Expenses (in thousands of dollars) of Self-Employed Physicians, by Census Division, 1989**



Source: AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System 1990 core survey.

Table 48. **Mean Professional Expenses (in thousands of dollars) of Self-Employed Physicians, 1989**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	148.4	128.5	139.1	203.2	132.5	197.4
Census Division						
New England	132.1	.	128.2	.	.	.
Middle Atlantic	147.3	103.0	130.6	223.2	130.5	263.6
East North Central	134.9	132.1	126.1	185.1	.	150.4
West North Central	159.9	118.1	.	204.2	.	.
South Atlantic	156.6	134.9	134.2	224.6	141.2	.
East South Central	178.1	166.4	.	272.9	.	.
West South Central	141.5	113.7	145.9	166.5	.	.
Mountain	137.4	.	.	183.6	.	.
Pacific	149.3	132.0	142.6	178.1	157.5	.
Type of Practice						
Solo	124.2	121.8	115.8	160.6	113.1	184.2
Non-solo	178.0	140.5	166.5	255.9	148.8	212.2
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	142.3	145.7	123.6	155.9	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	153.0	121.5	140.2	218.5	125.7	178.5
1,000,000 and over	145.4	122.5	140.1	198.3	140.1	224.3
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	127.8	143.5	102.3	204.6	.	.
36-45 years	150.9	134.7	153.8	198.7	143.6	173.2
46-55 years	157.9	143.0	131.7	215.8	146.9	227.5
56-65 years	155.0	124.6	145.2	216.5	124.5	211.4
66 or more years	106.2	89.7	109.2	120.7	.	.

Source: 1990 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 48 (continued). **Standard Error of Mean Professional Expenses (in thousands of dollars) of Self-Employed Physicians, 1989**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	3.29	4.53	6.32	8.57	7.24	10.92
Census Division						
New England	10.96	.	15.88	.	.	.
Middle Atlantic	9.10	13.40	16.15	23.53	20.08	39.14
East North Central	6.34	10.24	11.95	16.09	.	12.00
West North Central	10.67	11.28	.	15.82	.	.
South Atlantic	7.86	15.93	12.11	21.38	14.73	.
East South Central	22.83	18.97	.	69.38	.	.
West South Central	8.96	7.25	32.42	16.00	.	.
Mountain	8.80	.	.	16.71	.	.
Pacific	7.50	9.48	15.20	13.97	13.46	.
Type of Practice						
Solo	3.04	5.55	6.69	6.45	8.44	15.55
Non-solo	6.00	7.70	10.69	16.32	10.75	15.02
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	5.98	8.46	25.68	11.76	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	5.59	7.50	9.79	15.13	10.08	14.86
1,000,000 and over	4.63	7.54	8.73	10.65	11.39	17.74
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	8.70	25.26	10.48	28.60	.	.
36-45 years	4.95	6.47	11.53	10.84	13.42	15.51
46-55 years	6.51	10.86	9.95	13.89	13.69	25.58
56-65 years	9.41	8.19	17.09	28.86	15.69	21.13
66 or more years	6.49	9.40	16.05	12.95	.	.

Table 49. **Mean Professional Expenses (in thousands of dollars) of Self-Employed Physicians, 1982-1989**[a]

	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
All Physicians	78.4	85.4	94.0	102.7	118.4	123.7	140.8	148.4
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	75.3	79.4	89.2	96.5	119.9	121.2	122.3	128.5
Internal Medicine	74.9	88.5	89.7	90.0	110.5	117.8	136.3	139.1
Surgery	103.7	112.3	128.9	135.7	148.6	164.7	188.2	203.2
Pediatrics	67.7	64.1	77.8	87.3	93.2	100.2	115.3	132.5
Obstetrics/Gynecology	108.3	108.5	121.6	131.9	149.5	173.2	189.6	197.4
Census Division								
New England	72.7	72.1	64.4	85.8	94.6	105.6	112.3	132.1
Middle Atlantic	59.8	71.6	83.6	82.6	105.4	110.1	127.9	147.3
East North Central	73.3	84.1	85.2	93.7	106.3	117.7	129.9	134.9
West North Central	87.1	86.0	100.2	102.7	132.6	135.7	141.7	159.9
South Atlantic	81.6	91.1	101.2	109.0	130.8	129.2	161.9	156.6
East South Central	82.6	88.8	102.4	106.6	133.0	127.3	167.3	178.1
West South Central	99.2	105.4	118.8	124.7	138.9	137.4	139.0	141.5
Mountain	77.2	71.5	85.3	112.2	104.6	117.2	125.0	137.4
Pacific	77.6	89.1	98.2	109.5	117.6	130.9	149.8	149.3
Type of Practice								
Solo	72.4	77.2	85.4	90.5	100.7	110.4	120.1	124.2
Non-solo	86.3	98.8	108.0	120.8	144.4	142.3	167.3	178.0
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	79.6	85.5	85.0	91.4	119.7	116.0	128.8	142.3
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	77.9	91.5	98.0	106.2	123.3	130.7	147.3	153.0
1,000,000 and over	78.5	79.4	92.5	102.3	112.9	118.5	136.9	145.4
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	57.2	67.2	90.4	80.4	90.9	100.0	111.0	127.8
36-45 years	76.7	89.5	96.8	101.7	123.7	127.7	149.9	150.9
46-55 years	96.0	99.2	105.0	114.1	127.9	129.5	158.3	157.9
56-65 years	79.6	80.4	86.0	107.0	119.8	130.0	132.2	155.0
66 or more years	58.2	61.5	69.1	89.4	93.4	95.1	96.7	106.2

Source: 1983-1990, AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core surveys. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. Data, other than in the specialty breakdown, are based on responses from physicians in all specialties. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. This will cause figures to differ from those reported in previous editions of this volume. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

Table 49 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Professional Expenses (in thousands of dollars) of Self-Employed Physicians, 1982-1989[a]**

	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
All Physicians	1.78	1.68	2.14	2.48	2.60	2.58	2.95	3.29
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	2.80	3.24	4.04	4.83	7.01	6.56	4.92	4.53
Internal Medicine	3.80	4.88	5.19	4.35	4.96	4.97	7.00	6.32
Surgery	4.98	3.72	6.17	5.80	5.16	5.88	6.23	8.57
Pediatrics	4.85	3.00	3.91	5.43	6.29	5.09	6.88	7.24
Obstetrics/Gynecology	6.00	4.94	6.08	6.45	8.08	8.02	9.87	10.92
Census Division								
New England	7.60	5.53	5.56	13.62	9.30	11.75	9.33	10.96
Middle Atlantic	4.01	3.88	6.01	4.86	5.73	5.66	7.30	9.10
East North Central	3.64	4.39	3.67	5.24	6.13	5.84	6.86	6.34
West North Central	7.90	6.09	7.75	12.14	11.20	14.55	9.26	10.67
South Atlantic	4.72	4.19	5.86	6.71	6.50	5.79	8.73	7.86
East South Central	7.08	5.06	7.11	7.78	9.69	7.37	11.78	22.83
West South Central	5.51	6.75	6.73	9.12	9.76	7.72	6.74	8.96
Mountain	5.70	5.14	7.68	9.62	8.44	9.34	8.66	8.80
Pacific	4.63	4.14	5.61	5.36	6.53	7.64	8.55	7.50
Type of Practice								
Solo	1.93	1.95	2.35	2.55	2.57	2.82	3.32	3.04
Non-solo	3.21	3.00	4.01	4.71	4.99	4.58	4.95	6.00
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	4.64	4.83	3.74	4.69	6.21	5.56	6.75	5.98
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	2.50	2.53	3.48	3.86	4.01	4.29	4.51	5.59
1,000,000 and over	2.94	2.54	3.20	3.88	3.99	3.61	4.54	4.63
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	3.32	3.82	7.87	4.85	4.74	6.45	6.72	8.70
36-45 years	3.11	3.22	3.24	4.02	4.62	5.18	5.19	4.95
46-55 years	4.25	3.51	5.32	5.20	5.72	4.55	6.89	6.51
56-65 years	3.72	3.34	3.63	5.87	5.44	5.43	5.31	9.41
66 or more years	3.39	4.19	4.11	10.00	8.04	7.11	6.54	6.49

Table 50. **Median Professional Expenses (in thousands of dollars) of Self-Employed Physicians, 1989**[a]

		Specialty				
	All Physicians[b]	General/Family Practice	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Pediatrics	Obstetrics/ Gynecology
All Physicians	119	116	115	167	115	167
Census Division						
New England	98	.	98	.	.	.
Middle Atlantic	105	94	98	168	115	188
East North Central	106	108	105	165	.	157
West North Central	134	100	.	186	.	.
South Atlantic	130	132	106	181	118	.
East South Central	138	145	.	179	.	.
West South Central	118	116	120	145	.	.
Mountain	132	.	.	175	.	.
Pacific	125	121	116	156	156	.
Type of Practice						
Solo	101	102	97	138	108	151
Non-solo	144	128	136	200	122	204
Location						
Nonmetropolitan	127	136	92	150	.	.
Metropolitan—						
Less than 1,000,000	121	113	116	176	115	155
1,000,000 and over	115	101	116	167	129	186
Physician Age						
Less than 36 years	105	120	89	167	.	.
36-45 years	125	123	123	175	132	150
46-55 years	126	138	106	181	122	200
56-65 years	120	102	130	156	115	181
66 or more years	85	81	82	99	.	.

Source: 1990 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 51. **Median Professional Expenses (in thousands of dollars) of Self-Employed Physicians, 1982-1989**[a]

	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
All Physicians	61	67	75	78	89	99	109	119
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	63	68	75	81	92	96	98	116
Internal Medicine	66	67	73	74	91	100	104	115
Surgery	74	97	104	105	116	133	151	167
Pediatrics	55	61	69	73	76	89	100	115
Obstetrics/Gynecology	96	99	106	116	124	149	164	167
Census Division								
New England	52	55	50	57	66	81	94	98
Middle Atlantic	49	53	68	61	81	80	92	105
East North Central	60	64	72	71	75	96	95	106
West North Central	65	68	80	82	102	103	125	134
South Atlantic	60	71	77	79	100	103	123	130
East South Central	68	82	88	85	104	116	128	138
West South Central	80	78	94	91	97	108	125	118
Mountain	63	62	66	84	82	97	94	132
Pacific	63	71	74	90	92	102	115	125
Type of Practice								
Solo	60	60	69	71	80	90	91	101
Non-solo	64	80	84	90	106	113	135	144
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	64	70	77	80	95	96	110	127
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	63	72	77	80	93	102	113	121
1,000,000 and over	59	60	69	73	82	96	101	115
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	49	58	70	65	79	82	93	105
36-45 years	63	71	78	79	93	100	121	125
46-55 years	70	83	84	91	96	107	120	126
56-65 years	62	60	71	79	89	101	103	120
66 or more years	50	46	55	57	67	69	71	85

Source: 1983-1990, AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core surveys. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. Data, other than in the specialty breakdown, are based on responses from physicians in all specialties. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. This will cause figures to differ from those reported in previous editions of this volume. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

Table 52. **Mean Nonphysician Personnel Payroll (in thousands of dollars) per Self-Employed Physician, 1982-1989**[a]

	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
All Physicians	30.1	29.0	31.2	35.6	38.8	42.5	48.4	52.7
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	30.4	29.9	31.2	37.3	42.5	42.6	44.6	50.9
Internal Medicine	29.4	31.2	32.3	30.8	35.3	43.7	51.5	52.2
Surgery	38.3	37.9	42.0	43.0	48.1	58.3	61.3	71.8
Pediatrics	25.1	25.3	29.5	33.1	35.3	33.7	39.9	45.8
Obstetrics/Gynecology	45.8	33.3	36.8	42.8	45.7	48.1	64.4	61.0
Census Division								
New England	30.5	24.3	21.3	25.3	28.7	36.6	35.0	48.1
Middle Atlantic	19.8	23.3	26.6	26.4	34.2	35.5	40.8	49.7
East North Central	28.2	28.2	28.6	31.1	33.3	40.0	46.2	47.6
West North Central	37.6	30.2	37.6	37.7	49.3	51.2	48.8	65.1
South Atlantic	31.7	31.8	34.8	41.4	40.5	46.6	57.9	58.0
East South Central	35.4	33.6	38.6	50.3	49.6	47.1	64.3	67.0
West South Central	38.3	38.7	36.4	46.0	50.2	44.0	47.5	49.6
Mountain	28.0	23.7	25.2	33.3	28.3	37.1	38.6	46.4
Pacific	28.2	27.5	32.3	34.5	39.1	45.9	51.2	50.2
Type of Practice								
Solo	26.0	24.2	25.9	29.2	31.8	35.9	40.2	40.9
Non-solo	35.7	36.7	40.1	45.6	50.0	52.9	60.3	67.9
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	34.7	31.3	29.7	33.7	43.0	43.2	52.0	54.4
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	29.9	32.6	33.1	37.8	41.6	46.5	52.3	56.0
1,000,000 and over	28.9	25.0	29.8	33.8	34.8	38.5	43.6	49.2
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	19.3	23.7	29.8	24.5	30.5	33.3	40.0	44.0
36-45 years	30.6	29.5	31.2	35.0	40.0	44.1	51.7	54.4
46-55 years	34.9	33.4	35.6	40.6	42.1	45.0	54.8	56.0
56-65 years	31.3	28.2	29.1	37.9	41.0	44.8	42.5	54.7
66 or more years	27.0	22.3	22.9	31.2	26.3	31.2	37.5	36.6

Source: 1983-1990, AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core surveys. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. Data, other than in the specialty breakdown, are based on responses from physicians in all specialties. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. This will cause figures to differ from those reported in previous editions of this volume. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

Table 52 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Nonphysician Personnel Payroll (in thousands of dollars) per Self-Employed Physician, 1982-1989**[a]

	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
All Physicians	0.84	0.70	0.85	1.20	1.18	1.14	1.28	1.40
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	1.44	1.47	1.46	2.13	2.64	2.68	2.58	2.07
Internal Medicine	1.81	2.06	2.27	1.99	1.86	2.16	3.10	2.67
Surgery	2.35	1.55	2.53	2.19	2.32	2.81	2.76	3.56
Pediatrics	2.15	1.59	1.68	2.33	3.16	2.27	2.87	3.09
Obstetrics/Gynecology	3.44	1.88	2.17	3.36	6.30	2.94	5.40	4.21
Census Division								
New England	4.16	2.69	2.37	3.46	2.93	4.42	3.30	4.86
Middle Atlantic	1.37	1.74	2.55	1.98	3.82	2.48	3.04	3.76
East North Central	1.62	1.76	1.54	2.04	2.61	2.55	3.19	2.66
West North Central	3.74	2.69	3.94	4.45	4.80	5.49	4.28	6.81
South Atlantic	2.21	1.78	2.26	3.56	2.40	2.89	3.58	3.59
East South Central	3.47	2.45	3.17	5.21	4.29	3.34	5.56	8.09
West South Central	2.55	2.67	2.26	5.97	4.46	2.93	2.98	3.90
Mountain	3.01	2.28	2.16	3.05	2.67	3.65	3.82	3.77
Pacific	2.34	1.53	2.21	2.10	2.94	3.63	3.73	3.11
Type of Practice								
Solo	0.84	0.73	0.82	0.92	1.07	1.17	1.49	1.22
Non-solo	1.60	1.35	1.76	2.63	2.47	2.14	2.16	2.64
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	2.71	2.14	1.42	1.96	2.91	2.76	3.92	3.05
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	1.01	1.11	1.36	1.74	1.92	1.93	1.89	2.28
1,000,000 and over	1.47	0.97	1.32	2.01	1.69	1.52	1.93	2.05
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	1.31	1.78	3.04	1.47	2.46	2.46	3.25	3.72
36-45 years	1.68	1.29	1.38	1.90	2.07	2.18	2.46	2.14
46-55 years	1.88	1.40	2.11	2.83	2.98	2.27	2.66	2.98
56-65 years	1.55	1.49	1.36	3.09	2.22	2.43	2.16	3.63
66 or more years	2.31	2.24	1.59	2.90	2.15	2.67	3.81	2.59

Table 53. **Mean Office Expenses (in thousands of dollars) per Self-Employed Physician, 1982-1989**[a]

	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
All Physicians	17.8	21.2	24.4	26.4	28.5	30.0	34.0	33.3
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	18.2	20.5	23.1	25.0	29.2	30.0	32.5	30.0
Internal Medicine	18.6	24.2	22.6	25.9	28.0	28.7	35.5	32.0
Surgery	22.2	26.2	33.0	32.1	38.0	38.2	43.7	45.2
Pediatrics	17.5	20.8	23.7	23.1	20.8	31.1	29.0	30.1
Obstetrics/Gynecology	24.9	25.3	31.1	36.6	37.8	42.7	43.0	39.7
Census Division								
New England	14.5	18.4	16.9	27.4	20.1	23.9	24.9	27.9
Middle Atlantic	16.5	20.6	22.1	20.9	28.8	27.0	31.5	33.1
East North Central	14.5	20.0	19.8	25.8	21.6	27.4	32.1	29.2
West North Central	18.1	20.6	30.9	26.3	30.8	27.6	32.6	32.9
South Atlantic	18.6	22.7	26.4	24.5	30.4	30.0	34.1	36.7
East South Central	17.2	23.0	23.9	26.1	30.5	32.8	33.6	32.2
West South Central	23.2	22.7	31.7	32.1	37.2	32.6	40.9	35.7
Mountain	15.6	17.2	20.7	27.2	23.7	28.1	31.2	28.2
Pacific	19.4	22.1	26.7	30.1	30.2	36.9	38.9	36.0
Type of Practice								
Solo	17.4	20.3	23.4	25.0	26.7	28.3	32.0	30.5
Non-solo	18.3	22.6	26.1	28.7	31.3	32.4	37.0	36.8
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	16.4	21.7	19.9	21.6	28.1	26.2	26.9	31.3
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	17.7	21.1	25.4	26.9	26.4	29.8	34.1	32.6
1,000,000 and over	18.3	21.1	24.7	27.2	30.8	31.0	35.7	34.5
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	13.8	18.2	24.9	24.1	26.1	28.6	26.6	27.4
36-45 years	17.5	23.1	25.7	26.3	29.1	30.4	37.9	35.3
46-55 years	20.9	22.9	25.4	29.4	30.1	30.6	36.3	35.8
56-65 years	18.5	18.8	22.2	23.7	29.3	31.6	31.9	31.6
66 or more years	13.2	16.6	19.9	26.5	20.3	23.3	23.1	24.8

Source: 1983-1990, AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core surveys. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. Data, other than in the specialty breakdown, are based on responses from physicians in all specialties. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. This will cause figures to differ from those reported in previous editions of this volume. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

Table 53 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Office Expenses (in thousands of dollars) per Self-Employed Physician, 1982-1989**[a]

	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
All Physicians	0.49	0.51	0.77	0.81	0.84	0.87	0.97	0.96
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	1.07	1.13	1.44	1.83	2.17	1.87	2.12	2.32
Internal Medicine	1.15	1.51	1.38	1.62	1.78	1.62	2.54	1.83
Surgery	1.16	1.12	2.29	1.72	2.08	2.28	2.05	2.29
Pediatrics	1.74	1.50	2.07	1.93	1.59	2.68	2.88	2.35
Obstetrics/Gynecology	2.69	1.65	2.82	3.03	3.07	3.35	3.71	3.06
Census Division								
New England	1.56	1.78	1.81	6.03	2.11	3.31	3.80	2.92
Middle Atlantic	1.39	1.33	1.89	1.59	2.27	2.02	2.18	2.11
East North Central	0.88	1.23	1.23	2.08	1.48	2.01	2.41	2.41
West North Central	1.83	1.83	4.51	3.72	3.50	5.59	3.87	2.99
South Atlantic	1.27	1.25	1.93	1.50	2.26	1.66	2.15	2.44
East South Central	1.83	2.32	2.49	2.64	3.75	3.45	3.50	3.84
West South Central	1.75	1.56	3.62	2.43	3.25	2.05	3.38	3.80
Mountain	1.41	1.70	1.98	3.69	2.13	2.59	3.70	2.46
Pacific	1.38	1.30	1.74	1.99	1.88	2.75	2.81	2.45
Type of Practice								
Solo	0.59	0.60	0.91	0.97	0.93	0.99	1.15	0.97
Non-solo	0.83	0.90	1.36	1.41	1.57	1.55	1.66	1.74
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	1.25	1.61	1.46	1.75	2.52	1.94	2.37	2.95
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	0.74	0.75	1.22	1.35	1.02	1.19	1.36	1.30
1,000,000 and over	0.76	0.75	1.17	1.16	1.46	1.48	1.61	1.55
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	0.96	1.38	2.62	2.21	2.73	3.81	2.34	2.24
36-45 years	0.91	1.05	1.40	1.28	1.45	1.51	1.92	1.81
46-55 years	1.02	0.95	1.68	1.67	1.88	1.47	1.93	1.89
56-65 years	1.12	0.89	1.25	1.37	1.66	1.88	1.83	1.89
66 or more years	1.29	1.41	1.74	4.34	1.49	2.19	2.18	2.34

Table 54. **Mean Expenditures (in thousands of dollars) on Medical Supplies per Self-Employed Physician, 1982-1989**[a]

	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
All Physicians	7.6	9.3	10.7	11.2	13.2	13.5	14.5	17.0
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	10.8	11.6	13.7	14.8	17.6	17.2	16.2	19.9
Internal Medicine	7.5	10.9	11.0	11.5	14.9	16.8	15.1	21.2
Surgery	8.8	11.4	13.7	13.8	13.4	13.8	17.4	17.8
Pediatrics	7.4	7.2	9.6	12.6	14.8	16.6	20.7	21.2
Obstetrics/Gynecology	9.6	11.1	13.3	12.2	14.1	17.4	18.5	18.0
Census Division								
New England	5.0	6.4	4.7	10.1	10.3	9.5	9.5	12.6
Middle Atlantic	4.7	8.4	8.1	7.3	10.0	12.2	11.5	15.1
East North Central	7.0	8.0	10.4	10.1	11.0	13.6	14.0	13.1
West North Central	9.5	10.2	9.1	14.2	17.3	17.6	13.5	17.1
South Atlantic	7.8	8.9	12.4	12.1	14.6	13.1	16.9	16.5
East South Central	8.5	11.9	14.6	12.2	17.7	13.5	18.2	26.4
West South Central	11.3	13.2	15.6	15.3	18.4	15.7	17.3	20.6
Mountain	7.9	7.8	10.3	13.9	14.3	12.3	11.8	16.4
Pacific	7.7	9.5	10.6	10.7	10.8	13.8	15.4	19.1
Type of Practice								
Solo	7.1	8.6	10.3	9.9	11.0	12.5	12.8	14.2
Non-solo	8.3	10.3	11.5	13.4	16.9	15.0	16.9	20.6
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	9.2	9.2	11.9	13.5	15.5	17.1	14.5	19.5
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	7.5	10.2	11.9	11.3	14.7	13.5	15.5	17.7
1,000,000 and over	7.7	8.4	9.5	10.6	11.1	12.6	13.5	15.8
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	6.2	7.0	10.0	10.3	11.9	11.8	12.2	13.8
36-45 years	7.3	8.9	11.1	11.1	12.7	14.7	15.2	17.8
46-55 years	9.0	10.8	11.4	11.5	16.8	12.8	16.2	17.7
56-65 years	7.7	9.5	9.9	12.3	12.1	13.8	13.3	18.1
66 or more years	6.6	8.6	10.2	9.9	8.9	11.2	11.1	11.8

Source: 1983-1990, AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core surveys. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. Data, other than in the specialty breakdown, are based on responses from physicians in all specialties. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. This will cause figures to differ from those reported in previous editions of this volume. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

Table 54 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Expenditures (in thousands of dollars) on Medical Supplies per Self-Employed Physician, 1982-1989**[a]

	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
All Physicians	0.29	0.29	0.42	0.48	0.66	0.54	0.57	0.74
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	0.58	0.61	1.10	1.18	1.49	1.53	1.06	1.20
Internal Medicine	0.65	0.87	0.93	1.19	2.01	1.38	1.29	2.79
Surgery	0.68	0.73	1.06	1.15	1.44	1.09	1.37	1.23
Pediatrics	0.76	0.56	0.77	1.31	1.30	1.68	2.16	2.18
Obstetrics/Gynecology	1.16	0.88	1.10	1.18	1.64	1.88	1.91	1.57
Census Division								
New England	0.63	0.80	0.69	3.06	3.34	2.01	1.51	2.10
Middle Atlantic	0.59	0.78	0.79	0.80	0.94	1.12	1.19	1.83
East North Central	0.64	0.74	0.94	1.00	1.13	1.47	1.56	1.08
West North Central	1.31	0.97	1.26	3.49	2.80	3.24	1.24	1.92
South Atlantic	0.64	0.62	1.03	1.03	1.50	1.01	1.48	1.19
East South Central	1.10	1.20	2.22	1.10	2.92	1.40	2.56	4.14
West South Central	1.10	1.18	1.62	1.60	2.82	1.56	1.83	3.44
Mountain	1.19	0.81	1.49	1.91	4.32	2.58	1.54	2.10
Pacific	0.82	0.76	1.26	1.14	1.02	1.57	1.71	2.34
Type of Practice								
Solo	0.37	0.36	0.51	0.50	0.69	0.63	0.63	0.80
Non-solo	0.46	0.49	0.73	0.93	1.29	0.96	1.02	1.30
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	0.84	0.65	1.19	1.31	1.44	1.84	1.32	1.48
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	0.42	0.47	0.73	0.67	1.24	0.84	0.89	1.26
1,000,000 and over	0.46	0.44	0.54	0.77	0.68	0.75	0.86	1.04
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	0.60	0.68	1.10	1.20	1.48	1.21	1.61	1.45
36-45 years	0.50	0.50	0.73	0.70	0.88	1.06	0.98	1.12
46-55 years	0.69	0.62	0.79	0.92	2.06	0.99	1.24	1.77
56-65 years	0.62	0.64	1.00	1.34	1.00	1.21	1.18	1.66
66 or more years	0.68	1.03	1.49	1.83	1.08	1.51	1.53	1.25

Table 55. **Mean Professional Liability Premiums (in thousands of dollars) per Self-Employed Physician, 1982-1989**[a]

	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
All Physicians	5.8	6.9	8.4	10.5	12.8	15.0	15.9	15.5
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	3.5	4.2	4.6	6.8	7.3	8.9	9.4	9.0
Internal Medicine	3.7	4.5	4.9	5.8	7.1	8.4	9.0	8.2
Surgery	9.9	11.0	13.3	16.6	21.3	24.5	26.5	25.8
Pediatrics	2.9	3.9	3.4	4.7	6.3	7.1	9.3	7.8
Obstetrics/Gynecology	10.8	14.0	19.0	23.5	29.3	35.3	35.3	37.0
Census Division								
New England	5.5	6.6	7.1	9.8	10.7	17.9	18.2	17.7
Middle Atlantic	7.4	8.9	10.4	12.9	14.9	17.0	15.5	18.1
East North Central	5.3	6.9	7.6	10.7	13.4	13.9	14.8	16.1
West North Central	5.2	4.8	8.0	10.1	13.6	15.4	19.2	15.8
South Atlantic	5.6	6.1	8.6	11.3	14.4	15.5	18.4	15.6
East South Central	4.5	5.7	6.3	9.7	10.1	12.6	13.5	15.6
West South Central	4.2	5.2	5.5	7.0	8.1	11.9	13.4	11.3
Mountain	5.5	6.2	7.5	8.1	12.0	16.1	16.8	19.4
Pacific	6.8	8.6	9.9	11.1	12.8	14.4	14.4	12.7
Type of Practice								
Solo	5.6	6.5	7.9	9.5	11.9	14.0	14.3	13.7
Non-solo	6.0	7.5	9.2	11.8	14.0	16.2	17.8	17.7
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	4.4	5.1	7.1	7.6	10.9	14.2	13.6	13.5
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	5.9	6.5	7.8	10.1	12.3	14.1	15.6	15.6
1,000,000 and over	6.1	7.8	9.2	11.6	13.8	16.0	16.6	16.0
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	4.6	5.2	6.2	8.7	9.5	12.0	11.0	12.7
36-45 years	6.1	7.0	8.5	10.4	13.0	14.8	16.5	15.0
46-55 years	6.4	7.7	9.4	11.6	14.8	16.1	17.0	17.5
56-65 years	5.6	7.0	8.7	10.8	12.4	16.6	16.9	16.3
66 or more years	4.5	5.9	6.5	8.5	10.3	10.7	11.4	11.8

Source: 1983-1990, AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core surveys. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. Data, other than in the specialty breakdown, are based on responses from physicians in all specialties. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. This will cause figures to differ from those reported in previous editions of this volume. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

Table 55 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Professional Liability Premiums (in thousands of dollars) per Self-Employed Physician, 1982-1989**[a]

	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
All Physicians	0.14	0.16	0.20	0.23	0.29	0.39	0.41	0.43
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	0.18	0.28	0.28	0.43	0.37	0.95	0.57	0.56
Internal Medicine	0.29	0.35	0.30	0.38	0.49	0.44	0.68	0.31
Surgery	0.35	0.34	0.49	0.49	0.67	0.96	0.94	1.14
Pediatrics	0.32	0.61	0.16	0.31	0.39	0.41	1.78	0.48
Obstetrics/Gynecology	0.55	0.68	0.94	1.05	1.21	1.50	1.72	1.93
Census Division								
New England	0.55	0.83	0.73	1.14	1.31	3.30	2.42	2.71
Middle Atlantic	0.44	0.50	0.60	0.66	0.81	1.03	0.85	1.21
East North Central	0.29	0.44	0.42	0.53	0.69	0.77	0.78	0.90
West North Central	0.47	0.34	0.71	0.82	0.91	1.06	2.04	1.05
South Atlantic	0.35	0.32	0.46	0.66	0.85	0.83	1.11	1.20
East South Central	0.38	0.51	0.91	0.94	0.81	0.99	1.11	2.76
West South Central	0.29	0.33	0.39	0.43	0.61	1.54	1.10	0.77
Mountain	0.47	0.52	0.64	0.65	0.95	1.38	1.37	1.45
Pacific	0.39	0.48	0.52	0.56	0.69	0.80	1.19	0.65
Type of Practice								
Solo	0.18	0.22	0.24	0.28	0.38	0.52	0.56	0.48
Non-solo	0.21	0.25	0.33	0.39	0.45	0.60	0.59	0.74
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	0.28	0.38	0.51	0.39	0.64	1.47	0.87	0.92
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	0.20	0.21	0.29	0.34	0.43	0.56	0.59	0.73
1,000,000 and over	0.22	0.28	0.31	0.38	0.47	0.58	0.67	0.61
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	0.37	0.38	0.47	0.58	0.56	0.74	0.72	1.04
36-45 years	0.24	0.29	0.34	0.39	0.53	0.59	0.76	0.63
46-55 years	0.30	0.33	0.44	0.49	0.63	0.69	0.78	0.91
56-65 years	0.26	0.36	0.42	0.54	0.56	1.23	0.97	1.20
66 or more years	0.35	0.63	0.54	0.70	0.93	0.84	0.92	1.00

Table 56. **Mean Expenditures (in thousands of dollars) on Medical Equipment per Self-Employed Physician, 1982-1989**[a]

	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
All Physicians	5.1	5.1	5.5	5.9	7.0	6.5	6.9	7.6
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	4.3	4.3	4.8	4.8	6.9	7.2	6.3	5.8
Internal Medicine	5.8	4.9	4.8	7.0	5.8	5.1	6.3	7.2
Surgery	7.3	7.3	8.3	8.4	8.5	9.2	10.6	11.6
Pediatrics	2.4	4.4	3.3	3.9	4.7	4.1	3.9	6.0
Obstetrics/Gynecology	7.5	6.6	7.9	7.1	7.2	8.5	7.3	10.6
Census Division								
New England	4.1	5.1	2.7	4.9	3.2	5.0	5.7	5.0
Middle Atlantic	3.4	3.8	5.4	4.5	4.8	5.8	4.4	7.6
East North Central	4.2	4.9	3.9	5.4	4.9	5.0	6.2	7.3
West North Central	4.9	4.2	5.2	5.1	10.7	5.4	7.1	7.2
South Atlantic	4.6	5.9	6.0	5.6	8.9	7.5	7.5	7.9
East South Central	5.4	4.7	5.3	6.0	8.4	6.3	11.5	8.3
West South Central	7.9	7.2	9.0	6.9	8.0	6.7	7.1	8.1
Mountain	7.1	4.0	6.7	11.8	7.2	5.7	5.4	6.4
Pacific	5.1	5.1	5.4	5.6	7.9	8.5	8.5	8.3
Type of Practice								
Solo	4.8	4.8	5.0	5.6	5.5	6.0	5.7	6.9
Non-solo	5.4	5.5	6.5	6.4	9.4	7.1	8.5	8.5
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	4.9	4.7	4.5	6.3	7.1	6.5	6.3	7.2
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	5.0	5.3	6.4	6.3	7.8	7.6	8.0	7.6
1,000,000 and over	5.2	5.0	5.0	5.4	6.1	5.4	5.9	7.7
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	4.1	4.9	8.9	6.4	6.2	5.0	6.5	7.9
36-45 years	6.0	5.3	6.2	6.8	8.2	6.9	7.7	8.0
46-55 years	5.3	5.8	5.5	5.5	7.3	7.5	8.4	8.0
56-65 years	4.5	4.7	3.5	5.3	6.0	5.9	5.4	8.1
66 or more years	2.7	2.5	3.1	4.4	3.4	4.0	2.9	2.8

Source: 1983-1990, AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core surveys. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. Data, other than in the specialty breakdown, are based on responses from physicians in all specialties. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. This will cause figures to differ from those reported in previous editions of this volume. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

Table 56 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Expenditures (in thousands of dollars) on Medical Equipment per Self-Employed Physician, 1982-1989**[a]

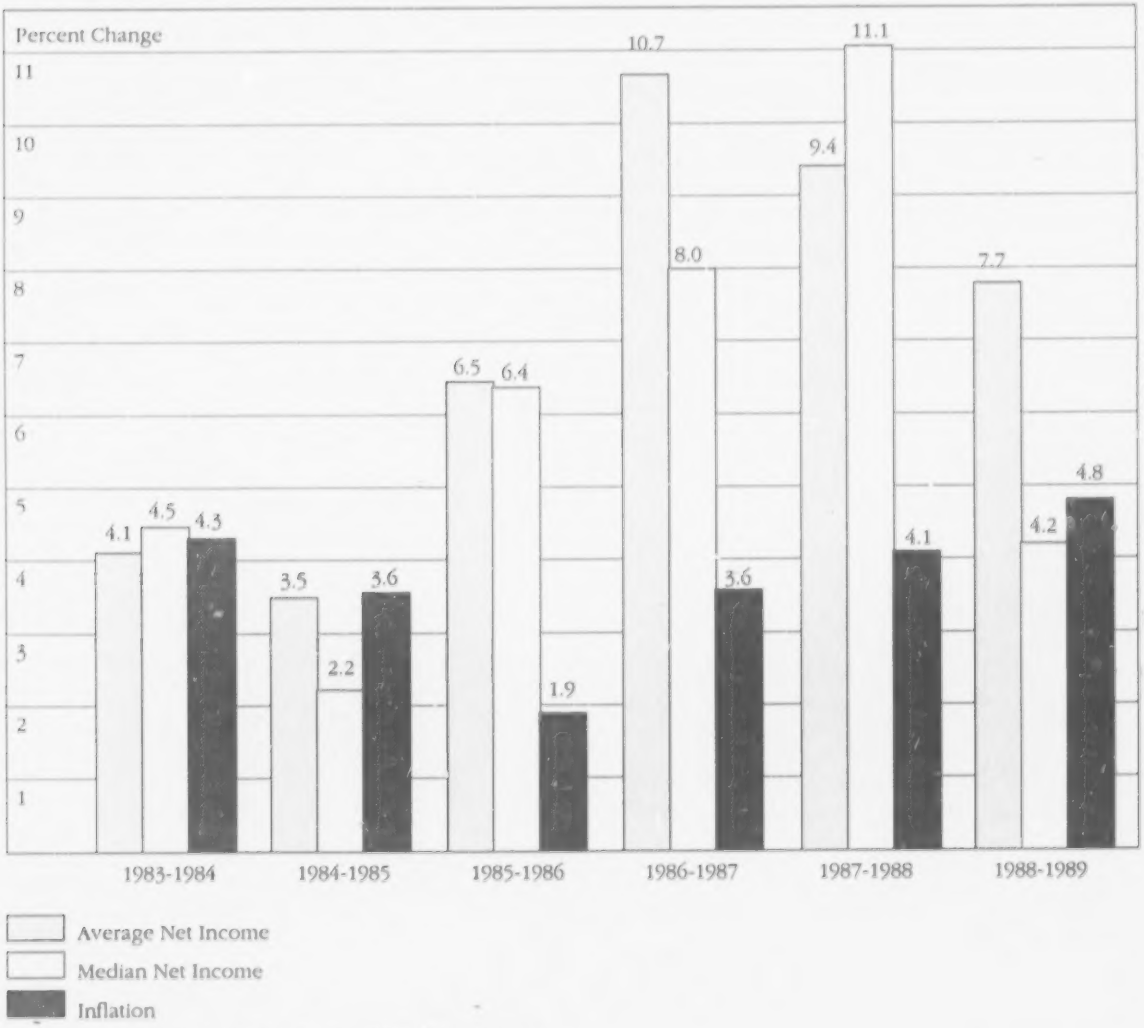
	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
All Physicians	0.27	0.22	0.34	0.43	0.42	0.41	0.37	0.35
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	0.33	0.47	0.51	0.38	0.80	1.69	0.66	0.45
Internal Medicine	1.08	0.47	0.58	2.30	0.59	0.47	0.65	0.64
Surgery	0.68	0.60	0.92	0.79	0.67	0.77	0.89	0.83
Pediatrics	0.34	0.70	0.37	0.41	0.56	0.49	0.45	0.74
Obstetrics/Gynecology	1.32	0.71	1.41	0.89	1.18	1.09	0.97	2.43
Census Division								
New England	0.71	1.51	0.52	2.02	0.48	1.09	1.12	0.82
Middle Atlantic	0.44	0.36	1.00	0.65	0.50	0.77	0.55	0.88
East North Central	0.42	0.51	0.38	0.64	0.65	0.53	0.75	0.81
West North Central	0.75	0.61	0.90	0.75	2.45	0.96	0.98	0.95
South Atlantic	0.68	0.60	0.80	0.51	1.34	0.85	0.90	0.69
East South Central	0.66	0.63	0.56	0.75	1.93	0.77	2.22	1.04
West South Central	1.40	1.03	0.97	0.87	1.04	0.79	1.09	0.99
Mountain	1.37	0.54	2.96	5.31	1.30	0.95	0.79	0.91
Pacific	0.68	0.46	0.74	0.54	1.33	2.14	1.44	1.35
Type of Practice								
Solo	0.32	0.28	0.33	0.64	0.35	0.58	0.40	0.50
Non-solo	0.47	0.37	0.72	0.51	0.90	0.55	0.67	0.48
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	0.50	0.38	0.45	0.73	0.84	0.67	0.67	0.64
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	0.33	0.31	0.69	0.53	0.71	0.81	0.65	0.49
1,000,000 and over	0.52	0.39	0.38	0.81	0.56	0.40	0.49	0.60
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	0.53	0.52	1.95	0.78	0.71	0.67	0.89	1.05
36-45 years	0.59	0.34	0.48	1.00	0.85	0.62	0.60	0.58
46-55 years	0.45	0.51	0.70	0.68	0.79	1.10	0.99	0.59
56-65 years	0.64	0.56	0.35	0.53	0.79	0.79	0.63	1.06
66 or more years	0.29	0.37	0.64	1.50	1.05	0.61	0.53	0.49

Physician Net Income after Expenses before Taxes

Physician net income is defined to include all earnings from medical practice after expenses before taxes, including fringe benefits and contributions into deferred compensation plans. A special effort is made in the Socioeconomic Monitoring System surveys to ensure that deferred compensation is included in the net income that is reported.

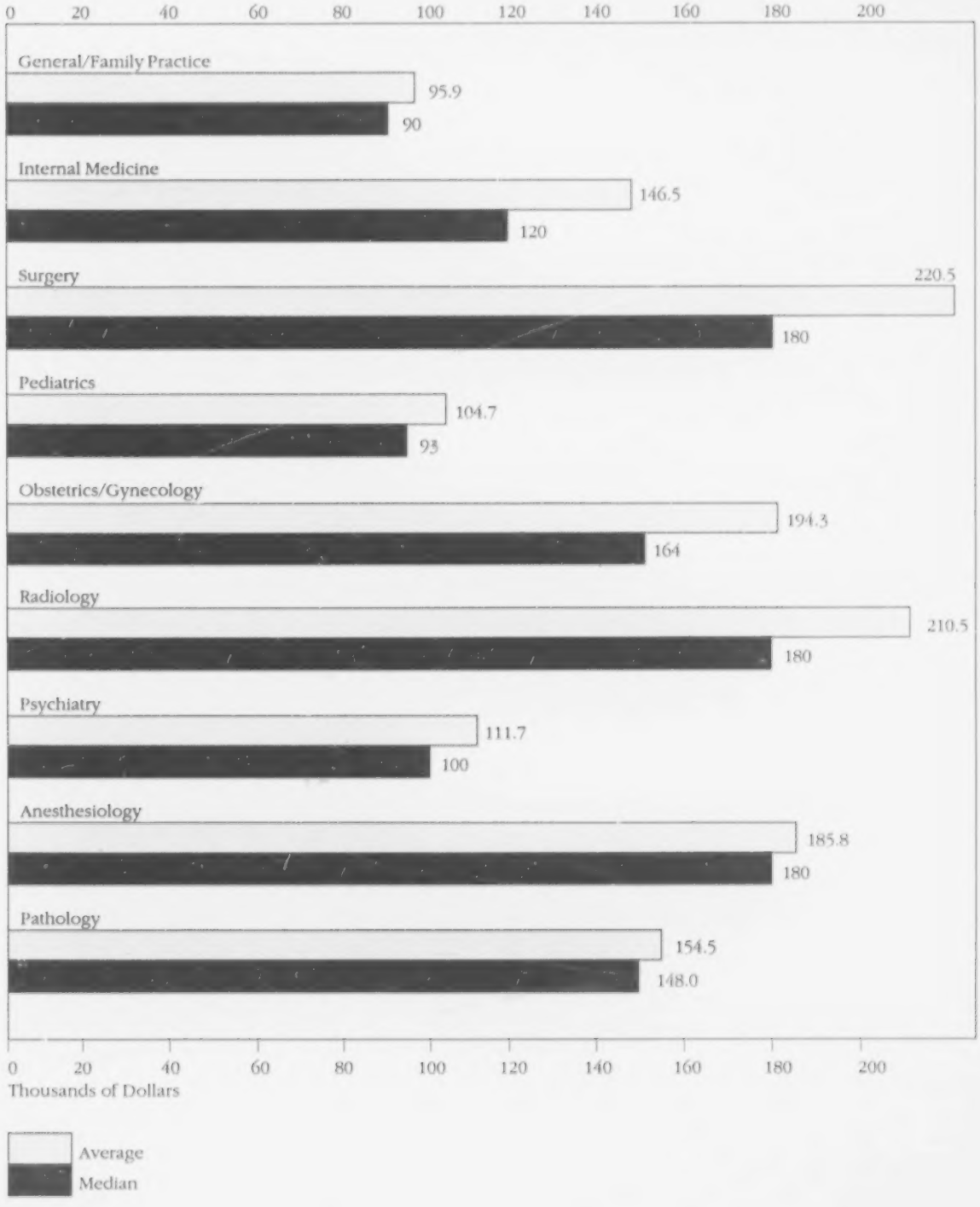
Physician average net income increased at a faster rate than inflation in 1989 (see Figure 16). However, median net income increased at a lower rate than inflation. Although average net income reached $155,800, half of physicians earned less than $125,000. As shown in Figure 17, earnings vary by specialty. The highest earnings were among surgeons; the lowest were among general/family practitioners and pediatricians.

Figure 16. **Percent Change in Average and Median Net Income after Expenses before Taxes of All Physicians, 1983-1990**



Source: AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System 1984-1990 core surveys.

Figure 17. **Average and Median Physician Net Income (in thousands of dollars) after Expenses before Taxes, by Specialty, 1989**



Source: AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System 1990 core survey.

Table 57. **Mean Physician Net Income (in thousands of dollars) after Expenses before Taxes, 1989**[a]

		Specialty								
	All Physicians[b]	GP/FP	Int Med	Surg	Ped	Ob/Gyn	Rad	Psych	Anes	Path
All Physicians	155.8	95.9	146.5	220.5	104.7	194.3	210.5	111.7	185.8	154.5
Census Division										
New England	128.3	.	123.1	169.4	.	.	.	.	.	.
Middle Atlantic	152.5	90.2	146.1	209.0	103.4	230.8	189.2	114.1	161.2	.
East North Central	155.6	91.2	149.4	228.5	102.0	204.7	213.6	101.7	174.8	.
West North Central	159.2	110.0	134.7	229.3	.	.	.	.	.	.
South Atlantic	165.6	92.7	159.1	234.3	120.6	210.9	176.2	114.1	196.9	.
East South Central	173.0	105.3	196.6	225.4	.	.	.	.	.	.
West South Central	170.5	100.5	152.3	240.9	.	193.7	.	.	.	.
Mountain	142.6	.	146.8	202.6	.	.	.	.	.	.
Pacific	148.1	96.7	130.9	205.6	109.5	194.8	226.5	109.1	170.0	.
Type of Practice										
Solo	153.6	96.3	150.5	204.1	114.2	202.6	.	114.7	201.3	.
Non-solo	156.9	95.6	144.3	232.9	101.7	190.2	208.6	109.3	181.3	156.5
Location										
Nonmetropolitan	129.4	101.1	128.9	180.9	87.7	.	.	.	.	.
Metropolitan—										
Less than 1,000,000	164.1	93.6	155.5	235.1	102.7	202.9	230.0	111.2	184.0	175.8
1,000,000 and over	153.4	95.1	140.6	213.8	110.0	193.7	202.8	113.0	182.3	134.1
Employment Status										
Self-employed	175.3	100.5	164.5	234.3	120.6	224.3	267.1	120.3	205.9	204.3
Employee	119.2	85.1	102.6	161.6	81.2	122.9	162.8	100.9	162.8	120.7
Physician Age										
Less than 36 years	113.3	90.6	87.6	169.5	74.4	119.5	148.7	.	158.9	.
36-45 years	163.0	95.9	167.8	233.0	106.7	213.1	219.9	112.7	198.5	133.1
46-55 years	180.6	118.0	159.6	241.8	116.9	216.9	247.1	121.8	174.5	191.2
56-65 years	151.7	94.1	141.8	207.6	110.2	203.4	196.0	110.0	195.1	.
66 or more years	112.2	74.3	93.2	167.4	.	.	.	83.7	.	.

Source: 1990 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 57 (continued). **Standard Error of Mean Physician Net Income (in thousands of dollars) after Expenses before Taxes, 1989**[a]

		Specialty								
	All Physicians[b]	GP/FP	Int Med	Surg	Ped	Ob/Gyn	Rad	Psych	Anes	Path
All Physicians	2.15	2.27	5.13	6.38	4.10	9.55	10.17	3.50	5.88	8.94
Census Division										
New England	5.44	.	12.68	16.00	.	.	.	.	.	.
Middle Atlantic	4.99	7.10	10.97	14.34	8.51	28.41	18.87	7.91	13.14	.
East North Central	5.07	3.77	14.12	15.13	9.63	23.11	17.70	7.76	13.00	.
West North Central	7.01	6.32	22.05	21.40	.	.	.	.	.	.
South Atlantic	6.46	5.50	13.97	20.48	9.19	35.41	15.25	9.84	14.40	.
East South Central	10.12	7.73	38.72	21.87	.	.	.	.	.	.
West South Central	6.85	8.44	17.30	17.75	.	19.26	.	.	.	.
Mountain	8.77	.	24.33	26.52	.	.	.	.	.	.
Pacific	4.87	7.05	7.82	12.86	11.80	19.27	39.76	8.24	12.90	.
Type of Practice										
Solo	3.86	3.82	10.16	9.13	11.42	20.13	.	4.86	10.50	.
Non-solo	2.58	2.78	5.71	8.75	4.05	9.95	10.54	5.02	6.85	9.22
Location										
Nonmetropolitan	5.69	4.68	25.78	16.29	12.13	.	.	.	.	.
Metropolitan—										
Less than 1,000,000	3.44	2.95	8.02	10.05	5.92	17.33	12.93	5.81	7.89	17.16
1,000,000 and over	3.03	4.51	6.71	9.09	6.26	11.14	17.24	4.53	8.61	8.40
Employment Status										
Self-employed	2.98	2.92	6.74	7.31	5.93	12.14	18.30	4.85	8.35	15.35
Employee	2.20	3.14	4.79	10.87	3.78	7.40	7.79	4.73	7.62	7.60
Physician Age										
Less than 36 years	4.15	5.11	6.71	20.69	6.77	9.40	15.24	.	11.08	.
36-45 years	3.51	2.63	9.28	10.83	7.26	15.68	15.53	6.62	9.44	10.28
46-55 years	4.58	8.84	10.54	9.72	6.62	21.49	26.15	5.99	10.41	19.30
56-65 years	4.68	4.84	9.09	12.76	8.37	23.56	13.04	7.43	22.09	.
66 or more years	9.44	6.31	12.92	38.28	.	.	.	7.82	.	.

Table 58. **Mean Physician Net Income (in thousands of dollars) after Expenses before Taxes, 1982-1989**[a]

	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
All Physicians	97.7	104.1	108.4	112.2	119.5	132.3	144.7	155.8
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	71.4	66.9	71.6	77.9	80.3	91.5	94.6	95.9
Internal Medicine	86.9	94.6	104.2	102.0	109.4	121.8	130.9	146.5
Surgery	128.6	144.3	151.0	155.0	162.4	187.9	207.5	220.5
Pediatrics	70.5	70.8	73.7	76.2	81.8	85.3	94.9	104.7
Obstetrics/Gynecology	112.3	118.1	118.8	124.3	135.9	163.2	180.7	194.3
Radiology	133.3	144.3	139.7	144.3	168.8	180.7	188.5	210.5
Psychiatry	75.8	79.2	85.1	87.2	91.5	102.7	111.4	111.7
Anesthesiology	131.9	141.6	143.9	142.7	150.2	163.1	194.5	185.8
Census Division								
New England	80.3	84.9	87.8	106.0	107.1	110.6	132.9	128.3
Middle Atlantic	89.8	98.7	99.3	106.6	114.6	126.1	135.0	152.5
East North Central	105.2	111.1	109.8	119.3	126.6	137.6	147.0	155.6
West North Central	105.7	107.7	109.1	112.1	120.7	133.9	138.0	159.2
South Atlantic	95.9	104.5	113.6	111.2	119.6	133.8	156.0	165.6
East South Central	103.8	111.3	121.8	114.8	122.6	141.2	164.8	173.0
West South Central	118.4	122.9	122.2	124.6	129.0	140.4	160.7	170.5
Mountain	93.0	89.2	101.5	95.9	108.5	125.5	132.1	142.6
Pacific	91.0	100.5	109.2	112.0	119.0	135.4	136.0	148.1
Type of Practice								
Solo	94.0	98.7	104.8	111.0	115.5	127.8	140.4	153.6
Non-solo	100.5	108.5	111.2	113.0	122.1	135.0	147.1	156.9
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	86.9	86.9	91.3	93.3	107.7	117.9	120.9	129.4
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	101.5	108.7	115.2	117.2	124.5	140.4	154.1	164.1
1,000,000 and over	96.7	103.8	106.3	111.6	117.5	127.9	140.6	153.4
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	70.9	77.3	79.6	84.3	90.0	96.1	108.1	113.3
36-45 years	105.5	106.7	117.4	115.7	124.4	138.8	152.1	163.0
46-55 years	115.1	129.9	126.0	133.6	140.2	151.9	166.8	180.6
56-65 years	97.7	101.1	103.0	111.9	119.7	131.2	140.5	151.7
66 or more years	62.5	72.0	81.7	88.6	83.0	95.7	102.2	112.2

Source: 1983-1990, AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core surveys. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. Data, other than in the specialty breakdown, are based on responses from physicians in all specialties. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. This will cause figures to differ from those reported in previous editions of this volume. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

Table 58 (continued). **Standard Error of the Mean Physician Net Income (in thousands of dollars) after Expenses before Taxes, 1982-1989**[a]

	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
All Physicians	1.22	1.38	1.29	1.37	1.41	1.88	1.86	2.15
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	1.75	1.71	1.73	1.95	2.15	2.74	2.25	2.27
Internal Medicine	2.68	3.57	3.39	3.23	3.02	3.57	3.91	5.13
Surgery	3.92	4.14	4.08	4.34	4.10	6.21	5.57	6.38
Pediatrics	2.86	3.55	2.53	2.50	2.38	2.75	3.01	4.10
Obstetrics/Gynecology	4.58	4.86	3.82	4.30	4.67	10.31	9.56	9.55
Radiology	3.84	4.75	4.76	4.55	5.23	6.25	6.50	10.17
Psychiatry	2.59	2.61	2.21	3.06	2.69	3.56	4.37	3.50
Anesthesiology	4.23	3.97	4.38	5.17	4.30	4.98	7.44	5.88
Census Division								
New England	3.39	3.60	3.45	4.94	4.81	4.23	6.13	5.44
Middle Atlantic	3.13	3.99	2.84	3.00	3.33	3.84	4.19	4.99
East North Central	3.05	3.96	3.17	4.05	4.10	6.06	5.05	5.07
West North Central	4.58	6.02	5.17	6.22	5.02	5.77	6.09	7.01
South Atlantic	2.78	3.01	3.44	3.33	3.08	3.81	4.40	6.46
East South Central	4.20	5.24	6.00	5.96	6.63	7.51	9.07	10.12
West South Central	5.23	4.48	4.58	4.56	4.87	7.65	7.41	6.85
Mountain	4.81	4.36	4.31	4.02	5.00	6.39	6.75	8.77
Pacific	2.69	2.96	3.12	3.05	3.50	4.83	4.09	4.87
Type of Practice								
Solo	1.91	2.07	2.00	2.13	2.26	3.10	3.31	3.86
Non-solo	1.57	1.84	1.67	1.79	1.81	2.37	2.24	2.58
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	2.81	2.72	3.07	3.19	4.33	4.13	4.39	5.69
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	1.79	2.02	2.19	2.18	2.11	3.37	2.91	3.44
1,000,000 and over	1.93	2.20	1.75	2.01	2.11	2.35	2.73	3.03
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	2.16	2.34	2.49	2.59	2.51	2.78	3.44	4.15
36-45 years	2.40	2.24	2.35	2.15	2.39	3.39	3.38	3.51
46-55 years	2.55	3.42	2.91	3.27	3.40	4.77	4.05	4.58
56-65 years	2.41	3.09	2.34	3.10	3.08	3.54	3.97	4.68
66 or more years	2.79	3.11	4.30	5.73	3.28	4.19	4.41	9.44

Table 59. **Twenty-fifth Percentile Physician Net Income (in thousands of dollars) after Expense before Taxes, 1989**[a]

		Specialty								
	All Physicians[b]	GP/FP	Int Med	Surg	Ped	Ob/Gyn	Rad	Psych	Anes	Path
All Physicians	85	63	80	120	63	110	120	80	120	92
Census Division										
New England	80	.	75	123	.	.	.	.	.	.
Middle Atlantic	88	60	87	130	52	125	120	85	110	.
East North Central	80	65	80	124	65	105	140	75	120	.
West North Central	87	84	55	100	.	.	.	.	.	.
South Atlantic	84	68	85	110	88	98	100	80	118	.
East South Central	88	72	85	112	.	.	.	.	.	.
West South Central	90	56	73	140	.	124	.	.	.	.
Mountain	80	.	80	120	.	.	.	.	.	.
Pacific	85	60	80	120	79	130	125	80	140	.
Type of Practice										
Solo	79	60	73	105	63	90	.	80	150	.
Non-solo	90	65	80	135	64	120	120	80	120	100
Location										
Nonmetropolitan	75	75	70	105	57	.	.	.	.	.
Metropolitan—										
Less than 1,000,000	87	62	80	134	65	98	140	80	118	110
1,000,000 and over	86	60	80	120	59	125	120	80	130	88
Employment Status										
Self-employed	93	67	90	130	70	130	175	80	152	160
Employee	75	60	66	100	55	74	110	76	115	85
Physician Age										
Less than 36 years	63	60	55	95	50	77	72	.	100	.
36-45 years	90	70	90	128	59	125	139	80	130	92
46-55 years	100	70	94	140	84	126	150	84	130	108
56-65 years	85	63	96	125	78	108	125	75	130	.
66 or more years	55	45	60	48	.	.	.	56	.	.

Source: 1990 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 60. **Median Physician Net Income (in thousands of dollars) after Expenses before Taxes, 1989**[a]

		Specialty								
	All Physicians[b]	GP/FP	Int Med	Surg	Ped	Ob/Gyn	Rad	Psych	Anes	Path
All Physicians	125	90	120	180	93	164	180	100	180	148
Census Division										
New England	117	.	105	158	.	.	.	.	.	.
Middle Atlantic	125	74	125	175	93	180	157	100	130	.
East North Central	122	86	120	180	93	184	200	96	174	.
West North Central	126	102	97	200	.	.	.	.	.	.
South Atlantic	128	84	120	187	102	150	165	100	180	.
East South Central	127	100	119	180	.	.	.	.	.	.
West South Central	140	92	120	225	.	199	.	.	.	.
Mountain	120	.	99	179	.	.	.	.	.	.
Pacific	124	89	115	170	96	175	180	90	168	.
Type of Practice										
Solo	120	88	110	150	90	160	.	110	200	.
Non-solo	126	90	120	196	93	175	180	95	175	148
Location										
Nonmetropolitan	107	92	98	145	70	.	.	.	.	.
Metropolitan—										
Less than 1,000,000	130	90	125	200	92	164	200	93	180	150
1,000,000 and over	125	84	115	175	96	170	172	100	170	120
Employment Status										
Self-employed	140	95	130	200	104	200	225	110	200	190
Employee	100	80	93	135	80	120	150	90	150	110
Physician Age										
Less than 36 years	95	84	70	134	65	115	129	.	165	.
36-45 years	129	92	127	195	93	193	200	100	180	120
46-55 years	150	104	130	205	110	182	200	110	170	168
56-65 years	127	88	133	151	102	180	180	91	200	.
66 or more years	83	63	76	106	.	.	.	82	.	.

Source: 1990 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 61. **Seventy-fifth Percentile Physician Net Income (in thousands of dollars) after Expenses before Taxes, 1989**[a]

		Specialty								
	All Physicians[b]	GP/FP	Int Med	Surg	Ped	Ob/Gyn	Rad	Psych	Anes	Path
All Physicians	195	115	175	279	134	238	250	136	230	200
Census Division										
New England	160	.	150	193	.	.	.	.	.	.
Middle Atlantic	180	105	156	240	139	375	200	136	200	.
East North Central	190	110	178	300	140	250	290	120	205	.
West North Central	203	125	180	300	.	.	.	.	.	.
South Atlantic	205	110	200	282	150	250	225	136	250	.
East South Central	205	125	184*	300	.	.	.	.	.	.
West South Central	225	125	211	290	.	223	.	.	.	.
Mountain	175	.	192	265	.	.	.	.	.	.
Pacific	180	111	174	250	130	236	240	145	190	.
Type of Practice										
Solo	185	120	165	251	167	250	.	145	240	.
Non-solo	197	110	175	285	130	230	250	130	219	200
Location										
Nonmetropolitan	150	120	133	220	110	.	.	.	.	.
Metropolitan—										
Less than 1,000,000	200	115	180	285	126	240	270	140	235	220
1,000,000 and over	190	110	165	280	138	240	220	140	210	175
Employment Status										
Self-employed	219	120	200	290	165	275	320	150	250	225
Employee	148	100	130	190	100	155	200	116	200	150
Physician Age										
Less than 36 years	137	110	101	185	90	156	190	.	218	.
36-45 years	200	116	200	295	135	250	270	140	250	170
46-55 years	220	143	195	300	146	250	255	150	200	220
56-65 years	180	110	173	259	140	244	233	140	220	.
66 or more years	135	100	128	150	.	.	.	100	.	.

Source: 1990 AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core survey. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

b. Includes physicians in specialties not listed separately.

. Indicates fewer than 20 observations.

Table 62. **Twenty-fifth Percentile Physician Net Income (in thousands of dollars) after Expenses before Taxes, 1982-1989**[a]

	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
All Physicians	55	60	63	65	70	74	80	85
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	45	42	45	50	53	58	60	63
Internal Medicine	50	57	66	62	67	70	77	80
Surgery	71	87	90	87	95	102	117	120
Pediatrics	43	42	46	50	55	55	60	63
Obstetrics/Gynecology	66	70	80	80	89	100	100	110
Radiology	80	90	90	89	120	110	117	120
Psychiatry	52	54	60	55	65	73	74	80
Anesthesiology	90	100	98	99	110	115	126	120
Census Division								
New England	48	51	60	62	70	70	80	80
Middle Atlantic	50	55	57	63	68	70	76	88
East North Central	60	62	70	65	74	73	80	80
West North Central	60	60	63	59	75	78	78	87
South Atlantic	55	60	62	62	68	75	87	84
East South Central	60	65	65	65	65	75	85	88
West South Central	62	70	70	70	71	75	82	90
Mountain	52	54	60	60	60	70	70	80
Pacific	53	60	68	70	70	78	80	85
Type of Practice								
Solo	51	55	60	60	65	71	74	79
Non-solo	58	63	66	65	71	75	82	90
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	54	52	50	60	66	70	70	75
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	58	63	65	68	71	75	84	87
1,000,000 and over	54	58	65	63	70	74	79	86
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	42	45	45	49	58	55	60	63
36-45 years	60	62	71	70	75	77	85	90
46-55 years	72	77	76	80	83	88	95	100
56-65 years	58	60	64	65	70	77	80	85
66 or more years	32	35	40	45	49	53	55	55

Source: 1983-1990, AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core surveys. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. Data, other than in the specialty breakdown, are based on responses from physicians in all specialties. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. This will cause figures to differ from those reported in previous editions of this volume. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

Table 63. **Median Physician Net Income (in thousands of dollars) after Expenses before Taxes, 1982-1989**[a]

	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
All Physicians	82	88	92	94	100	108	120	125
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	63	60	64	70	75	80	85	90
Internal Medicine	75	83	90	90	95	100	109	120
Surgery	110	124	128	129	141	153	180	180
Pediatrics	62	62	67	70	75	77	85	93
Obstetrics/Gynecology	107	104	110	120	127	145	150	164
Radiology	120	128	122	135	155	170	158	180
Psychiatry	68	70	80	80	82	90	97	100
Anesthesiology	120	137	145	133	149	150	180	180
Census Division								
New England	71	77	80	94	92	98	110	117
Middle Atlantic	75	80	85	90	95	100	110	125
East North Central	90	90	98	100	101	105	120	122
West North Central	90	85	90	85	105	114	120	126
South Atlantic	80	89	91	94	100	115	125	128
East South Central	90	100	100	92	100	111	132	127
West South Central	100	103	105	100	106	110	130	140
Mountain	81	80	91	85	90	110	110	120
Pacific	80	90	95	97	100	110	115	124
Type of Practice								
Solo	79	83	90	94	98	108	117	120
Non-solo	85	90	94	95	100	107	120	126
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	76	78	78	84	90	100	100	107
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	87	92	97	100	104	110	125	130
1,000,000 and over	80	86	92	93	98	105	115	125
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	60	65	68	72	75	80	86	95
36-45 years	90	90	100	100	103	111	120	129
46-55 years	100	110	110	115	120	128	140	150
56-65 years	85	86	92	93	100	110	118	127
66 or more years	55	60	68	73	70	80	85	83

Source: 1983-1990, AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core surveys. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. Data, other than in the specialty breakdown, are based on responses from physicians in all specialties. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. This will cause figures to differ from those reported in previous editions of this volume. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

Table 64. **Seventy-fifth Percentile Physician Net Income (in thousands of dollars) after Expenses before Taxes, 1982-1989**[a]

	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
All Physicians	121	130	135	140	150	163	180	195
Specialty								
General/Family Practice	90	85	89	95	100	110	114	115
Internal Medicine	110	119	127	123	130	146	156	175
Surgery	151	176	183	196	200	230	260	279
Pediatrics	90	85	92	92	100	110	120	134
Obstetrics/Gynecology	144	150	150	159	170	195	230	238
Radiology	172	185	185	195	210	225	231	250
Psychiatry	89	95	105	105	106	116	130	136
Anesthesiology	168	174	185	170	195	200	250	230
Census Division								
New England	100	101	105	132	130	140	155	160
Middle Atlantic	115	120	125	135	140	150	160	180
East North Central	132	140	133	150	150	160	180	190
West North Central	131	135	130	139	142	162	166	203
South Atlantic	121	131	140	135	150	170	200	205
East South Central	135	141	163	140	146	180	213	205
West South Central	150	160	150	160	160	175	210	225
Mountain	117	105	125	124	140	162	175	175
Pacific	113	126	140	132	150	170	168	180
Type of Practice								
Solo	120	124	130	142	145	153	180	185
Non-solo	125	135	139	139	150	170	180	197
Location								
Nonmetropolitan	107	115	120	120	129	146	150	150
Metropolitan--								
Less than 1,000,000	130	139	144	150	159	175	200	200
1,000,000 and over	120	127	130	137	145	156	175	190
Physician Age								
Less than 36 years	90	97	100	100	110	115	127	137
36-45 years	131	135	150	142	150	170	185	200
46-55 years	144	154	155	160	175	182	205	220
56-65 years	120	121	125	140	150	165	178	180
66 or more years	79	91	100	101	100	120	131	135

Source: 1983-1990, AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System core surveys. The population from which samples are drawn includes only active nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding residents.

a. Data, other than in the specialty breakdown, are based on responses from physicians in all specialties. All data are weighted to adjust for nonresponse bias. This will cause figures to differ from those reported in previous editions of this volume. See Appendix B for information on weighting and computation procedures. See Appendix D for information on definitions.

Appendices

The Design and Methodology of the AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System
Weighting and Computation Methodology
SMS Questionnaire Summary
Definitions of Variables

Appendix A
The Design and Methodology of the AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System[a]

The Socioeconomic Monitoring System (SMS) was developed in 1981 in response to the need of physicians and policymakers for more timely and frequent socioeconomic information on the practice of medicine than had been available in the past. This program represents an outgrowth of 20 years of AMA experience in monitoring socioeconomic aspects of medical practice. Its predecessor, the Periodic Survey of Physicians (PSP) collected similar information on an annual basis. The ninth full program year for SMS was completed in 1990.

SMS is designed to provide periodic information on a range of characteristics of medical practice, such as physicians' earnings, expenses, work patterns, and fees. In addition, a portion of each SMS survey is devoted to collecting information regarding current issues facing physicians.

The purpose of this article is to provide a description of the current SMS program design. The first section provides an overview of program characteristics. This is followed by discussions of the SMS survey sample design, questionnaire content, field procedures, and aspects of reporting SMS results.

Overview of SMS Program Characteristics

The two SMS surveys conducted in 1990 include an annual core survey and a supplemental survey. The core and supplemental surveys differ in the range of information collected, sample size, and the level of detail for which results are reported. The purpose of the annual core survey is to provide current data on a full range of economic and practice characteristics each year. The supplemental survey focuses on a more limited range of characteristics—those for which changes occur rapidly and those for which information is needed on a more frequent basis. The supplemental survey is also used to obtain information on topics of current policy concern. The average core survey interview lasts 25 minutes, while the supplemental survey averages 16 minutes in length.

The annual core survey obtains data from approximately 4,000 physicians; the supplemental survey obtains data from approximately 2,800 physicians. The sample size is the primary determinant of the level of disaggregation at which results can be reliably reported. Results are disaggregated into a larger number of specialties and geographical areas for the core survey than for the supplemental survey.

The 1990 core survey was fielded from March through July. The timing of the beginning of the core survey is designed to coincide with the income tax return filing deadline in order to improve the reliability of information that can be obtained on physician earnings and practice expenses for the previous year. The supplemental survey in 1990 was fielded from September through November. The field periods for the core and supplemental surveys were 21 and 12 weeks, respectively.

Compared with the two surveys in 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989 and 1990, three surveys were fielded in 1985, and four were fielded in each prior year of the SMS program. The additional surveys in previous years were similar in nature to the current supplemental survey. While the number of respondents to core surveys has been approximately 4,000 every year, supplemental surveys prior to 1986 included only about 1,200 respondents each.

a. This appendix is an update of an article, prepared by Mary Lou S. White, which appeared in the 1985 edition of Socioeconomic Characteristics of Medical Practice.

Sample Design

The SMS surveys are designed to provide representative information on the population of all nonfederal physicians who spend the greatest proportion of their time in patient care activities. This includes both office- and hospital-based physicians, but excludes residents. Samples for SMS surveys are selected from the AMA Physician Masterfile. The Masterfile contains current and historical information on every doctor of medicine in the United States, including both members and nonmembers of the AMA. Graduates of U.S. medical schools who are temporarily practicing overseas and graduates of foreign medical schools who live in the United States are also included on the file.

Data included on the Masterfile are obtained from primary sources, including many organizations and institutions. The only information obtained directly from individual physicians concerns current professional activities and preferred mailing addresses. These data are obtained on a quadrennial basis from the entire U.S. physician population and on a monthly basis from those physicians with changes in address or professional status. These changes may be signaled by input from professional organizations, AMA mailings, or by physician correspondence.

In addition to limiting the sample to nonfederal patient care physicians who have completed their residency programs, the following exclusions are made:

- doctors of osteopathy;
- graduates of foreign medical schools who are only temporarily licensed to practice in the United States;
- physicians for whom no current address is available; and
- physicians who were sampled in SMS surveys during the last three years.

Further exclusions are made after sample selection. These include:

- physicians who spend fewer than 20 hours per week in patient care activities or are federal physicians as determined from screening questions at the beginning of each interview, and
- those who cannot be located by mail or telephone after exhaustive tracking efforts are made.

The sample design utilized for SMS is a stratified random sample with systematic selection from the listing of eligible physicians on the AMA Physician Masterfile. The strata are defined by nine major specialty groupings and ten geographical regions of approximately equal size. The specialty information used from the Masterfile reflect physician self-designated practice specialty. Systematic selection within each stratum ensures that each specialty group and region is proportionally represented in the sample. The strata definitions are shown in Table 1. Stratification is used in SMS to increase the precision of certain sample estimates and to facilitate the analysis of individual strata. Once the sample is selected, the representativeness of each stratum is reviewed to ensure that it is consistent with the stratum's population proportion.

In order to provide reliable estimates of short-term changes in certain indicators, SMS samples are designed to include a panel component. The panel consists of a portion of the sample from one SMS survey which is reinterviewed in a subsequent SMS survey. Approximately 35% of the completed interviews are conducted as reinterviews with physicians who had been initially interviewed in a similar survey in the previous year. The SMS program uses annual reinterviews of this type in order to monitor annual changes in various characteristics. Prior to 1984, much experimentation was done with the reinterview interval to optimize its usefulness. The decision to annually reinterview a portion of the sample was made because reports of annual changes provide more useful data than changes over shorter periods.

Questionnaire Content

The SMS questionnaire consists of three distinct sections:

- screening questions to verify the physician's self-designated practice specialty and eligibility for the survey;
- a main questionnaire to collect information on practice characteristics, hours worked, volume of services, fees for selected procedures, income, and expenses; and
- special topics questions to provide information on emerging socioeconomic issues.

The screening and main questionnaire portions of the survey are identical in the core and supplemen-

Table 1. **SMS Survey Sample Strata**

Specialty Strata[a]

1. General Practice, Family Practice
2. Allergy, Cardiovascular Diseases, Gastroenterology, Internal Medicine, Pulmonary Diseases
3. General Surgery, Neurosurgery, Ophthalmology, Orthopedic Surgery, Plastic Surgery, Colon and Rectal Surgery, Thoracic Surgery, Urology
4. Pediatrics, Pediatric Allergy, Pediatric Cardiology
5. Obstetrics and Gynecology
6. Radiology, Diagnostic Radiology, Therapeutic Radiology
7. Psychiatry, Child Psychiatry
8. Anesthesiology
9. Aerospace Medicine, Neurology, Occupational Medicine, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, General Preventive Medicine, Public Health, Dermatology, Pathology, Forensic Pathology, Other Specialty, Unspecified

State Strata

1. Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont
2. New York
3. Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, West Virginia
4. District of Columbia, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia
5. Alabama, Florida, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee
6. Arkansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas
7. Indiana, Michigan, Ohio
8. Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin
9. Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Oregon, Utah, Wyoming, Washington
10. California

a. The AMA Physician Masterfile classification of self-designated practice specialties is used in the specialty strata listing.

tal surveys in order to provide the basis for estimating levels and changes in economic characteristics of medical practice. However, the core survey includes an expanded main questionnaire portion to provide additional information on practice characteristics and information on annual income and expenses for the previous year. The information requested in this expanded portion remains constant from one core survey to the next.

Questions for the main questionnaire were developed from a review of past surveys and through consultation with physicians, sources within the AMA, and Mathematica Policy Research, Inc., an independent consulting firm that assisted in the development of the SMS program. Efforts were made to maintain consistency of questions with those from the PSP from which trend information has been established over a period of years. However, modifications are made where it is deemed that the desired information would be more accurate if questions were changed. In addition, questions in the SMS surveys are designed so that physicians are asked only questions that are generally relevant to their specialty. A summary of the questionnaire used in the SMS surveys upon which this volume is based is included in Appendix C.

Special topics covered in the 1990 core survey include:

- prepackaged drug prescriptions;
- third-party payments to physicians;
- patient characteristics;
- patient referrals;
- professional liability; and
- physician family background.

Special topics questions are formulated and reviewed by members of AMA staff representing a broad range of activity areas. All questions that have not been used previously in SMS surveys are pretested prior to the survey fielding to evaluate the wording and ordering of questions and to determine the ability of respondents to provide the desired information.

Field Procedures

The SMS data collection plan is designed to provide reliable information within a tight time schedule. The survey is completed primarily by telephone. Telephone administration significantly reduces the time required to produce survey results and increases the response rate. The surveys are administered by independent consulting firms contracted by the AMA. Mathematica Policy Research, Inc., of Princeton, NJ, has conducted interviews for all surveys for the SMS program since the second quarter of 1983.

Field procedures developed for SMS surveys reflect a complex effort to minimize bias from nonresponse and accommodate the busy schedules of physicians through careful advance preparation and intensive follow-up efforts to complete interviews. The activities involved in this effort are described below.

Advance Letter. Two weeks prior to data collection, advance letters are sent to each physician selected to be interviewed or reinterviewed. Each letter includes a brief description of the interview, the project sponsorship, identification of the survey contractor, information that the physician will be receiving a telephone call from an interviewer on the contractor's staff, and a pledge of data confidentiality. Each letter is printed on AMA letterhead and bears the signature of James S. Todd, M.D., executive vice president of the American Medical Association. If a letter is returned because of an insufficient address, a search is initiated to obtain updated information so the physician may be sent another letter.

When the SMS program was initiated, many physicians indicated that they could not provide certain types of information during a telephone interview without advance preparation. As a result, questionnaire summaries were designed to provide the physician with a listing of the specific medical and surgical procedures for which fees will be requested, as well as with a description of income and expense questions. Since the third-quarter 1983 survey, this insert has been enclosed with each advance letter.

Telephone Search. Because inadequate coverage is a potential problem for telephone surveys, the AMA Division of Survey and Data Resources expends considerable effort to locate sample physicians. The basic sources used in the telephone look-up include directory assistance, state and county medical societies, state licensing boards, and hospitals. If it is impossible to obtain a telephone listing for a physician from these sources, the next steps include reverifying the physician's data contained on the AMA Physician Masterfile; contacting state, county, and specialty societies; initiating traces of physicians from former addresses appearing on the Masterfile; and checking medical society directories. This ensures that the proportion of physicians in each sample stratum most accurately reflects that of the population. Approximately one week prior to data collection, the survey contractor is provided names, addresses, and telephone numbers of physicians selected from the AMA Physician Masterfile.

Interviewer Training. Two days of study-specific training in addition to general training are provided to each interviewer before working on SMS surveys. Training includes a detailed review of each question (including instruction on pronunciation of various medical terms), practice interviews, and a review of interviewing and administrative procedures. AMA staff actively participate in the training process either in person or via teleconferencing to assure that all project specifications and instructions are clearly communicated, understood, and implemented.

Table 2. **Number of Completed Interviews and Response Rates for the 1989 and the 1990 Core Surveys**

Core Survey	Number of Completed Interviews	Response Rate
1989	4,104	72.1%
1990	4,022	69.1%

During training, the contractor actively evaluates each potential interviewer for appropriate survey skills, such as reading ability, voice quality, grasp of the material, and ability to develop rapport with physicians. The highest quality interviewers are then selected to work on the project.

Interview Process. Interviewing is conducted via a Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) process. This system produces a copy of the questionnaire on a computer screen. Responses to the questions are entered directly into the computer using this on-line system during the actual interview, eliminating any keypunching or separate data entry task. This reduces time schedules and maximizes quality by minimizing sources of error. In addition, this system has provided the ability to program range checks whereby a figure that is entered that exceeds the usual range automatically instructs CATI to prompt the interviewer to verify the response. This has helped reduce the number of invalid outlying responses.

A minimum of a 60% response rate for each specialty is required in order to regard an SMS survey as complete. Vigorous efforts are made to achieve the cooperation of physicians and meet this standard because of the short field period of SMS surveys. These efforts include the following:

- Appointments for interviews are scheduled at the convenience of physicians at any time 13 hours a day from Monday through Saturday.
- A toll-free number allows physicians to complete the interview at their convenience.

- An optional mail questionnaire, tailored to each specialty and type of practice, is made available to physicians who indicate a preference for responding to the survey in writing rather than by telephone.
- Repeated callbacks (a minimum of four) to nonrespondents are made before abandoning efforts to interview the physician.
- Letters encouraging participation and addressing specific objectives are sent to physicians who initially refuse to be interviewed.
- Refusal conversion attempts are made by a select group of interviewers. A substantial number of physicians decide to grant an interview at this stage.

The response rates achieved on the 1989 and 1990 core surveys are shown in Table 2. The results indicate the success of SMS in meeting its minimum 60% response rate standard.

Confidentiality. Data are entered via the CATI system and are released only in aggregate form without any individual respondent identifying information.

Quality Control. Each interviewer's work is monitored by the contractor's supervisory staff for both production and quality. AMA staff also monitor interviews by remote telephone hook-up to ensure that a high level of quality is maintained throughout the survey. If indicated, the contractor is instructed to retain interviewers or remove interviewers from the SMS study.

AMA staff also track the SMS survey production. A detailed review is made of all sample disposition, both pending and final, on a weekly basis. As a result of this evaluation, the time schedule is reviewed and necessary recommendations are made to the contractor to enable the survey to be completed during the allotted field period.

As part of the annual SMS program review, the design and methodology are examined with an eye for identifying areas for improvement. In 1986, the Center for Health Policy Research and the Division of Survey and Data Resources jointly undertook an evaluation of the impact of survey and item nonresponse rates and various potential methods for adjusting results to correct for nonresponse. The findings of that study and the consequent change in the methodology for computing statistical summary measures of SMS data are reported in Appendix B.

Reporting of SMS Results

Results obtained from SMS surveys are widely disseminated. In order to reach the physician community, results are published periodically in *AMNews*. Dissemination of information pertinent to the public is handled by the AMA Department of Public Information. *Socioeconomic Characteristics of Medical Practice* is an annual volume designed to provide more detailed results from SMS surveys than can generally be provided through other media.

Data from the SMS also serve as a basis for research on health policy issues. Analyses of such issues are disseminated through professional journals and conferences. This ensures that health policy analysts and researchers are apprised of important findings resulting from this program. Results from SMS surveys are reported at differing levels of detail depending on the nature of the media and the degree of precision of the estimates of physician characteristics deemed appropriate for the report. As indicated previously, data are never reported in any fashion that would allow identification of an individual respondent. Discussions of definitions and computation procedures employed in reporting SMS results are contained in Appendices B and D.

Conclusion

The SMS exemplifies a long-term commitment on the part of the AMA to obtain valid and reliable socioeconomic information on the practice of medicine. The SMS program complements AMA's other extensive data collection activities and its evolution represents a responsiveness to the need for the highest achievable data quality.

Appendix B
Weighting and Computation Methodology[a]

The AMA's Socioeconomic Monitoring System (SMS) is designed to measure key indicators of the changing medical practice environment in a cost-effective fashion. Cost-effectiveness demands that only a limited percentage of the physician population be contacted each year. Specifically, SMS is based on a random sample drawn from the AMA Physician Masterfile's enumeration of all nonfederal patient care physicians, excluding resident physicians. As such, SMS shares with all sample surveys the limitations that grow out of finite sample size. Thus, SMS is designed to produce reliable estimates for the ten specialty groups and nine census divisions defined in Appendix A of this volume, but is less well suited to provide estimates of the practice environment for more detailed subspecialty or geographic breakdowns. The program is designed to provide estimates of both the yearly level of each indicator as well as measures of change over time.

By design, SMS should measure the changing environment accurately but with some margin for error. There are some sources of imprecision that occur in survey work that can increase the margin for error and introduce bias into the estimates. Variations in response rates across known subpopulations can significantly reduce the ability of a sample survey to describe accurately the changing experience of the population of interest. For example, high response rates from AMA members and low response rates for nonmembers could reduce SMS's ability to represent the experience of the average physician if the experiences of these groups differ.

Even with relatively high response rates, variations in the rates may be sufficient to cause problems in reliably reporting the experiences of physicians. This appendix discusses the record of the SMS program in achieving representative samples, describes the standard statistical technique used to correct for this type of problem, and indicates the computation formulas for statistics reported in this volume.

Since its inception in late 1981, the SMS program has been continuously scrutinized and improved as our experience with this telephone survey program has increased. In 1986, a review of the problems of unit nonresponse and item nonresponse for key variables collected by SMS was undertaken.

Unit nonresponse occurs when no information at all is collected from a sampled physician because the physician is unlocatable, cannot be contacted, or refuses to be interviewed. Item nonresponse occurs when a physician agrees to be interviewed but chooses not to answer a specific item within the survey. Weighting, imputation, and regression techniques were applied to SMS data and results were compared. There are no clear criteria that permit one to choose the statistical correction most likely to represent the true population value for any indicator. In the case of the SMS variables analyzed, the results for weighting, imputation, and regression corrections for nonresponse were closer to each other than to the unweighted data traditionally reported in the *Socioeconomic Characteristics of Medical Practice*. The results suggested that the weights be based on a limited number of physician characteristics known from Masterfile data and should correct for unit nonresponse.

The results reported in this volume were obtained using a weighting scheme developed for each of the SMS core surveys. The weights were derived by first dividing the AMA Physician Masterfile population (using the year-end file from the previous

a. This appendix is an update of an appendix, prepared by Sara L. Thran and William D. Marder, which appeared in the 1988 edition of Socioeconomic Characteristics of Medical Practice.

Table 1. **Response Rates for SMS Survey by Demographic and Practice Characteristics, 1990**

	Response Rate		Sample Size	
	Initial	Reinterview	Initial	Reinterview
All Sampled Eligible Physicians	65.4%	77.3%	4068	1751
Years since M.D.				
0-9	71.4[a]	78.8[c]	974	359
10-19	62.8	76.0	1366	588
20-29	62.6	78.2	988	444
30-39	64.9	78.6	569	257
40 or more	70.8	79.6	171	103
Specialty				
General/Family Practice	68.0[a]	77.3[b]	582	273
Internal Medicine	55.1	72.5	937	331
Surgery	63.6	74.3	909	389
Pediatrics	71.9	80.1	253	141
Obstetrics/Gynecology	60.1	75.9	301	116
Radiology	78.8	78.8	217	113
Psychiatry	71.8	86.9	259	99
Anesthesiology	76.2	83.3	210	90
Pathology	83.3	91.2	72	57
Other	70.4	83.1	328	142
Board Certified				
Yes	64.8	77.9	3028	1309
No	67.2	77.4	1040	442
AMA Membership				
Member	69.4[a]	78.2	2078	976
Nonmember	61.2	77.2	1990	775

a. Within-category differences for the initial sample statistically significant at the p=.001 level.
b. Within-category differences for the reinterview sample statistically significant at the p=.05 level.

year) and the survey respondents into 200 cells defined by specialty (ten categories), years since M.D. (five categories), AMA membership status (two categories), and board certification status (two categories). Unit response weights were constructed as the ratio of the proportion of physicians in the population to the proportion of SMS respondents in each cell. Second, an eligibility correction was employed. Nonfederal patient care physicians (excluding residents) are eligible for SMS. The eligibility correction divides the subset of the SMS population for which eligibility is known into 40 cells (according to years in practice, AMA membership, sex, and board certification) and calculates the proportion of physicians in each cell who are eligible. This defines the eligibility weight. The overall weight applied for a given respondent is the product of a unit response weight and an eligibility weight.

Table 1 contains information from the 1990 core survey that suggests the need for weighting. Each SMS survey has two components, an initial sample, and an annual reinterview component. Table 1 shows the response rates and sample sizes for these two groups of respondents. The reinterview component has a much higher response rate and smaller variations among relevant subpopulations than the initial sample.

Table 2. **Mean Weights for Socioeconomic Monitoring System 1990 Core Survey**

		Specialty								
	All Physicians	GP/FP	Int Med	Surg	Ped	Ob/Gyn	Rad	Psych	Anes	Path
All Physicians	1.00	0.96	1.17	0.95	0.98	1.02	0.88	0.99	0.91	0.91
Census Division										
New England	1.06	0.98	1.22	0.98	0.97	1.06	0.82	1.08	1.29	0.83
Middle Atlantic	1.04	0.98	1.19	0.99	0.98	1.08	0.85	1.03	0.87	1.11
East North Central	0.97	0.92	1.14	0.92	1.00	0.99	0.91	1.02	0.89	0.89
West North Central	0.94	0.91	1.14	0.90	0.98	1.09	0.81	0.85	0.79	0.83
South Atlantic	0.99	0.96	1.17	0.96	0.90	0.97	0.87	0.94	0.88	0.88
East South Central	0.97	0.95	1.11	0.92	0.95	1.15	0.86	0.97	0.89	0.83
West South Central	0.96	0.95	1.10	0.92	1.07	0.91	0.87	0.99	0.95	0.80
Mountain	1.00	0.98	1.21	0.94	0.84	1.00	0.97	1.01	0.82	1.30
Pacific	1.04	1.03	1.21	1.00	1.03	1.07	0.96	0.98	0.91	0.90
Type of Practice										
Solo	1.02	0.98	1.20	0.98	1.01	0.99	0.87	0.96	0.95	0.95
Non-solo	0.99	0.94	1.15	0.93	0.97	1.04	0.88	1.03	0.90	0.91
Location										
Nonmetropolitan	0.99	0.95	1.17	0.93	1.04	0.97	0.87	1.02	0.98	0.91
Metropolitan—										
Less than 1,000,000	0.98	0.95	1.15	0.94	0.95	1.04	0.84	0.95	0.86	0.97
1,000,000 and over	1.02	0.98	1.19	0.98	0.98	1.02	0.92	1.02	0.94	0.87
Employment Status										
Self-employed	0.99	0.96	1.18	0.95	0.97	1.01	0.85	0.96	0.89	0.88
Employee	1.01	0.97	1.16	0.99	0.99	1.05	0.92	1.05	0.93	0.94
Physician Age										
Less than 36 years	0.95	0.94	1.03	1.00	1.02	0.85	0.87	1.00	0.79	0.68
36-45 years	1.02	0.93	1.20	0.95	1.01	1.14	0.91	1.07	0.88	0.97
46-55 years	1.03	1.05	1.20	0.97	1.00	1.08	0.92	1.03	0.89	0.85
56-65 years	0.96	0.93	1.23	0.93	0.86	0.95	0.78	0.91	1.12	0.97
66 or more years	0.94	1.01	1.12	0.88	0.81	0.79	0.94	0.81	1.06	0.92

The initial sample response rate of 65.4% compares favorably with the Health Care Financing Administration's (HCFA) Physician Practice Cost and Income Survey of 1984-1985. The HCFA survey achieved an overall response rate of 68%, with a much longer field period and much larger budget. Of greater concern are the statistically significant variations in response rates in Table 1. These subpopulations represent the dimensions that were found to be historically the most troublesome in the program. The two areas of greatest concern are the variations by specialty and membership status. Lower response rates in internal medicine and surgery may reflect the "busyness" of physicians in these fields and may introduce downward biases into estimates of hours worked, patient visits, and physician's incomes. Similarly, AMA membership status may be correlated with variables of interest. Efforts have been mounted to limit these variations in response rates. Nonetheless, significant differences remain; statistical techniques have been applied to the data to adjust the estimates.

Table 2 reports the mean values for the weights described above. The subpopulations reported in Table 2 correspond to the most detailed breakdowns reported in this volume. Within these cells, the average value for the weighting variable is highest for pathologists in the Mountain Census Division. The lowest value for the weighting variable is for pathologists who are less than 36 years old.

The formula for a weighted mean $\overline{X}_w$ using the value of a weight variable w_i is:

$$\overline{X}_w = \frac{\Sigma_i w_i X_i}{n}$$

where X_i is the variable value for observation i, and n is the number of observations. It is assumed that the weights are normalized to sum to the number of observations.

The formula for a weighted standard error of the mean is:

$$\sigma \overline{X}_w = \sqrt{\frac{\Sigma_i w_i (X_i - \overline{X}_w)^2}{n\,(n-1)}}$$

Appendix C
SMS Questionnaire Summary

This summary contains questions from the 1989 and 1990 Socioeconomic Monitoring System (SMS) surveys. Since the questionnaires are quite lengthy, some questions have been omitted from the summary, while others have been paraphrased. However, parts of questions that are paraphrased have been enclosed with square brackets. All questions relating to the statistics appearing in the main body of this book are included in this summary.

Screener Questions (All Surveys)

1. Our records indicate that [Masterfile specialty] is the specialty from which you derive most of your medical income. Is that correct?[a]

   (IF "YES," GO TO QUESTION 2)

   a. What is your primary specialty?

2. During a typical week, do you provide direct patient care for 20 hours a week or more? Direct patient care includes seeing patients and performing surgery, as well as related patient services performed by anesthesiologists, radiologists, and pathologists.

3. Are you currently a full-time, salaried employee of a federal agency such as the U.S. Public Health Service, Veterans Administration, or a military service?

Practice Characteristics (1989 and 1990 Core Surveys)

4. Are you a full or part owner of your main practice, an employee of the practice, or an independent contractor?

5. Including yourself, how many physicians are in your main practice?

   a. How many of these physicians are full or part owners of the practice?

6. In what year did you begin medical practice after completing your undergraduate and graduate medical training?

7. In what year did you start working at your current main medical practice?

Hours and Utilization of Physician Services per Week (1989 and 1990 Core Surveys)

The next few questions are about the number of hours you spent working at several medical and administrative activities during your most recent complete week of practice. Do not include hours spent on call if you were not actually working.

All specialties except psychiatry, radiology, anesthesiology, and pathology

8. During your [last] complete week of practice, how many hours did you spend. . .

   a. In the office or in freestanding primary or urgent care centers seeing patients? (Include time spent in all offices if the practice includes multiple offices.)

   b. In the hospital emergency room and in outpatient clinics?

   c. In the operating, labor, or delivery room? Please include waiting time before surgery.

   d. Making hospital rounds, including visits to newborn infants? (Do not include hours spent on call if you were not actually working.)

a. Masterfile specialty is information obtained from the AMA Physician Masterfile.

e. On house calls and with patients in nursing homes, convalescent homes, or other extended care facilities?

f. Having telephone conversations with patients or their families, consulting with other physicians, and providing other services to patients such as interpreting lab tests and x-rays?

g. In administrative activities connected with your practice and other medical facilities, as well as any other professional activities that did not involve patient care?

9. During the [number] of hours you spent in the office or in freestanding or urgent care centers [in your last complete week of practice]. . .

How many patient visits did you personally have? Please count as one visit every time you saw a patient.

10. During the [number] hours that you spent [in your last complete week of practice] in hospital emergency rooms and [outpatient clinics]. . .

How many patient visits did you personally have? Please count as one visit every time you saw a patient.

11. During the [number] hours that you spent seeing patients on house calls, in nursing homes, convalescent homes, and other extended care facilities. . .

How many patient visits did you personally have? Please count as one visit every time you saw a patient.

12. During the [number] hours spent in the operating, labor, or delivery room, how many operations and deliveries did you perform? Do not include assists.

13. How many assists did you perform during [your last complete week of practice]?

14. During [your last complete week of practice], how many inpatient visits did you make during the [number] hours spent on hospital rounds? Please count as one visit every time you saw a patient.

Fees for Selected Visits (1989 and 1990 Core Surveys)

All specialties except psychiatry, radiology, anesthesiology, and pathology

15 Does your practice provide at least some medical care on a fee-for-service basis?

(IF "NO," GO TO QUESTION 17)

16. What is your current usual fee for. . .

a. An office visit with a new patient including an evaluation history, examination, and/or treatment?

b. An office visit with an established patient including an examination, evaluation, and/or treatment for the same or new illness.

c. A follow-up medical visit in the hospital, when you charge a separate fee for hospital visits? This visit includes an examination, evaluation, and/or treatment with a new or established patient with the same illness.

Hospital Utilization (1989 and 1990 Core Surveys)

All specialties except radiology, anesthesiology, and pathology

17. During your most recent complete week of practice, how many patients did you personally discharge from the hospital?

18. Among those patients that you discharged in that week, what was [their average length of stay in days]?

19. How many of the [number] patients that you discharged from the hospital that week were Medicare patients?

1989 Income, Expenses, and Weeks Practiced (1990 Core Survey)

Self-employed physicians only

20. Do you share some expenses with other physicians?

21. [In 1989, what (were your/was your share of your practice's) total tax-deductible professional expenses for the following items to the nearest $1,000?][a]

a. Professional medical liability or malpractice insurance premiums.

b. Office expenses, including rent or mortgage for office space, utilities, and telephone.

a. First wording in parentheses is used for physicians in solo practice; second wording is used for physicians in non-solo practice.

c. Total nonphysician payroll expenses including fringe benefits.

d. Medical materials and supplies, such as drugs, x-ray films, and expenses for outside lab work, drugs, and other services.

e. Depreciation, leases, and rent on medical equipment. Do not include the total purchase price or the replacement value of your medical equipment. Please report only that proportion that was tax-deductible in 1989.

f. Other professional expenses, such as legal services, accounting services, office management services, professional association memberships, journals and continuing education, professional car upkeep and depreciation, and any other professional expenses [not mentioned].

All physicians

22. During 1989, how many weeks of medical practice did you miss because of . . .

a. illness or vacation?

b. military service or professional conferences?

c. Altogether then you missed [a + b] weeks of practice and practiced [52-a-b] weeks. Is that correct?

If physician started practice in 1989:

d. You mentioned earlier that you began practicing in 1989. Excluding the [number] weeks of practice you missed in 1989 because of illness or vacation, and the [number] weeks missed because of military service or professional conferences, for how many weeks did you practice in 1989?

23. During 1989, what was your own net income from medical practice to the nearest $1,000 after expenses but before taxes? Please include all income from fees, salaries, retainers, fringe benefits, and other forms of compensation.

24. Were any contributions made into pension, profit-sharing, or deferred compensation plans for you during 1989?

(If "YES," ASK PARTS a. AND b.)

a. How much was contributed for you to the nearest $1,000?

b. Did you include this amount in your [number] net income figure for 1989?

Professional Liability (1990 Core Survey)

25. Have any malpractice claims been filed against you during your career?

(IF "YES," CONTINUE WITH THIS SECTION)

26. How many malpractice claims have been filed against you during your career?

27. How many of these [number] claims were filed during the last five years?

(IF GREATER THAN 0, CONTINUE)

28. How many of these [number] claims were filed against you during the last twelve months?

Utilization Review (1990 Core Survey)

29. Which of the following factors do you feel interferes the most with your autonomy in clinical decision making: utilization review (UR), professional liability concerns, practice guidelines, prevailing practice styles in the community, or capitation and fee schedules?

(Utilization review may include Medicare PRO and carrier review, preadmission screening, continued stay review, second surgical opinion, medical case management, discharge planning, bill auditing, psychiatric case management, or retrospective review).

(IF UR WAS NOT SELECTED, THEN GO TO QUESTION 36)

30. Which of the following forms of utilization review interferes the most with your clinical decision making: preadmission or preprocedure certification, concurrent review, retrospective review, mandatory second surgical opinion, or high cost case management?

(High cost case management consists of a set of techniques to promote more cost effective and appropriate modes of care for patients with ongoing and expensive illnesses. Other terms for high cost case management include catastrophic, individual benefits, or medical care management).

31. Which of the following forms of utilization review do you find the most time consuming: preadmission or preprocedure certification, concurrent review, retrospective review, mandatory second surgical opinion, or high cost case management?

    (High cost case management consists of a set of technologies to promote more cost effective and appropriate modes of care for patients with ongoing and expensive illnesses. Other terms for high cost case management include catastrophic, individual benefits, or medical care management).

32. During your most recent complete week of practice, how many hours did you personally spend dealing with all types of utilization review requirements?

    These activities might include talking on the phone with representatives of utilization review organizations, pulling records, photocopying records, or other paperwork.

    (Utilization review may include Medicare, PRO and carrier review, preadmission screening, continued stay review, second surgical opinion, medical case management, discharge planning, bill auditing, psychiatric case management or retrospective review).

33. During your most recent complete week of practice, how many hours did nonphysician members of your clinical or administrative staff spend dealing with utilization review requirements for your cases?

    (Utilization review may include Medicare, PRO and carrier review, preadmission screening, continued stay review, second surgical opinion, medical case management, discharge planning, bill auditing, psychiatric case management or retrospective review).

34. During the last 12 months, has your practice taken any of the following measures, PRIMARILY to comply with utilization review requirements: hiring additional full-time staff, using outside billing services or electronic billing for the first time, changing your billing services by computerizing or introducing new software, or authorizing your staff to work overtime

    (Any other actions?). (Only include actions that were taken PRIMARILY to comply with utilization review requirements).

35. During your most recent complete week of practice, how many different utilization review organizations did you and your staff deal with?

    (These organizations may include those responsible for Medicare PRO and carrier review, preadmission screening, continued stay review, second surgical opinion, medical care management, discharge planning, bill auditing, psychiatric case management, or retrospective review).

    All physicians except radiologists, anesthesiologists, and pathologists.

36. During your most recent complete week of practice, have you personally had any cases involving prior authorization review?

    (Prior authorization review is used to determine if medical services proposed for a patient conform to requirements of the health plan that provides benefits for the patient. Prior authorization may be conducted by insurance companies utilization review companies, or Medicare PROs).

37. During that week, how many prior authorization review cases did you have?

38. During your most recent complete week of practice, how many of your prior authorization requests were denied?

Appendix D
Definitions of Variables

This appendix describes definitions used in reporting information from the AMA Socioeconomic Monitoring System (SMS). Changes in methodology over time relating to trends reported in the detailed tabulations in *Socioeconomic Characteristics of Medical Practice* are also discussed. Data published in this edition and the 1987, 1988 and 1989 editions are weighted (see Appendix B). Weighting the data causes the figures to differ from the unweighted information published previously in the 1983-1986 editions.

SMS survey questions referenced in this appendix may be found in Appendix C. Tables referred to are those contained in the detailed tabulations.

Sample Population

The population from which samples are drawn for SMS surveys includes all active nonfederal office-based and hospital-based physicians as defined by the AMA Physician Masterfile.[a] Residents are not included in the surveys.

Specialty

Specialty classifications used in reporting SMS data are shown in Table 1. Specialty is determined from responses to question 1 in SMS surveys.

Census Region and Division

States included in each census region and division are shown in Table 2. The state in which each physician was located is identified from the AMA Physician Masterfile.

Type of Practice

Physicians in solo and non-solo practices are distinguished in SMS surveys on the basis of responses to question 5. In the few cases where the number of physicians is not known, the practices are characterized as non-solo.

Location

The location classification groups physicians into nonmetropolitan areas, metropolitan areas with a population less than 1 million persons, and metropolitan areas with a population of 1 million or more persons. This classification was made on the basis of the demographic county classification contained on the AMA Physician Masterfile. Metropolitan areas include counties within Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas (SMSAs) and counties outside SMSAs with populations over 50,000.

Employment Status

Employment status is determined from the response to question 4. Physicians who respond that they are full or part owners of their main medical practice are deemed to be self-employed, while the remainder are identified as employee physicians. Physicians are initially coded as self-employed, employee, or independent contractor. Independent contractors were classified as employees for the purposes of the employment status breakouts reported here. The few physicians for whom employment status was not available were classified as employees.

a. Classifications used in the AMA Physician Masterfile are defined in G. Roback, et al., *Physician Characteristics and Distribution in the U.S.*, 1990 edition, American Medical Association, 1990

Table 1. **SMS Survey Specialty Classifications**

SMS Specialty Classification	AMA Physician Masterfile Specialties
General/Family Practice	
General/Family Practice	General Practice, Family Practice
Medical Specialties	
Internal Medicine	Allergy, Cardiovascular Diseases, Gastroenterology, Internal Medicine, Pulmonary Diseases
Pediatrics	Pediatrics, Pediatric Allergy, Pediatric Cardiology
Surgical Specialties	
Surgery	General Surgery, Neurosurgery, Ophthalmology, Orthopedic Surgery, Otolaryngology, Plastic Surgery, Colon and Rectal Surgery, Thoracic Surgery, Urology
Obstetrics/Gynecology	Obstetrics and Gynecology
Other Specialties	
Radiology	Radiology, Diagnostic Radiology, Therapeutic Radiology
Psychiatry	Psychiatry, Child Psychiatry
Anesthesiology	Anesthesiology
Pathology	Forensic Pathology, Pathology
Other	Aerospace Medicine, Neurology, Occupational Medicine, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, General Preventive Medicine, Public Health, Dermatology, Emergency Medicine, Other Specialty, Unspecified.

Age

The age of each physician SMS surveys was determined from birthdate information on the AMA Physician Masterfile.

Weeks Practiced per Year (Tables 1 and 2)

Weeks practiced in 1989 was calculated with responses to questions 22a, 22b, and 22c. However, if the physician began practice in 1989, weeks practiced was calculated from responses to 22a, 22b, and 22d. By using this series of questions, a more accurate figure on weeks worked was obtained from physicians that began practice in 1989. Weeks practiced in 1987 and 1988 was asked using the same questions as in 1989.

Weeks practiced in 1986 was calculated with responses to questions 22a and 22b on the 1987 SMS core survey and verified with question 22c. Question 22c corrected an upward bias in the computational procedure for physicians in their first year of practice. Weeks practiced in 1985 was calculated with responses to questions 22a and 22b on the 1986 SMS core survey. Prior to the 1986 SMS core survey, the following question was asked:

How many weeks did you practice in 198_? Please do not include vacations, sick time, military service, or other similar absences from practice.

Weeks practiced in 1985 and 1986 was calculated as 52 minus the sum of the number of weeks entered in parts a and b of question 22.

Hours in Professional Activities per Week (Tables 3–5)

Professional activities includes all patient care activities, administrative activities connected with medical practice, and other professional activities that do not involve patient care, such as medical staff functions, teaching, and research. Hours per week in professional activities in 1989 and 1990 is based on "total hours" as calculated by the sum of

Table 2. **Census Region and Division Definitions**

Census Region and Division	States
Northeast	
New England	Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont
Middle Atlantic	New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania
North Central	
East North Central	Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio,Wisconsin
West North Central	Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota
South	
South Atlantic	Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia
East South Central	Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee
West South Central	Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas
West	
Mountain	Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming
Pacific	Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, Washington

the responses to the individual parts of question 8 in the 1989 and 1990 SMS core surveys. Follow-up probes detailing the scope of the individual parts of these questions were used to avoid double counting of hours.

Hours in Patient Care Activities per Week (Tables 6–8)

Patient care activities include direct patient care and activities related to patient care, such as interpreting laboratory tests and x-rays and consulting with other physicians. Hours per week in patient care activities from 1983 to 1990 is based on the sum of the responses to parts a-f of question 8 in the SMS core surveys.

Hours in Direct Patient Care Activities per Week (Tables 9–11)

Direct patient care activities include seeing patients in the office, on hospital rounds, in surgery, and in other settings. Hours per week in direct patient care activities for 1983 to 1990 was determined from the sum of responses to parts a-e of question 8 on the 1983 through 1990 SMS core surveys. Physicians in psychiatry, radiology, anesthesiology, and pathology are not reflected in computations of direct patient care hours in Tables 9, 10, and 11.

Office Hours and Hours on Hospital Rounds per Week (Tables 12–17)

Office hours and hours on hospital rounds per week from 1983 to 1990 are based on responses to questions 8a and 8d respectively in the SMS core surveys. Physicians in psychiatry, radiology, anesthesiology, and pathology were not asked questions 8a and 8d and are, therefore, not reflected in the data reported in Tables 12–17.

Hours in Surgery per Week (Tables 18–20)

Hours in surgery per week in 1989 and 1990 is based on responses to question 8c in the 1989 and 1990 SMS core surveys. Physicians in psychiatry, radiology, anesthesiology, and pathology were not asked question 8c and are, therefore, not reflected in the data reported in Tables 18–20. Hours in surgery per week prior to 1989 in Table 20 are based

on responses to a similar question on the earlier SMS core surveys.

Total Patient Visits per Week (Tables 21–23)

Total patient visits includes visits in the office, on hospital rounds, in hospital emergency rooms and outpatient clinics, and in all other settings. Total patient visits per week in 1989 and 1990 is based on the sum of responses to questions 9-14 on the 1989 and 1990 SMS core surveys. Total patient visits per week in 1986-1988 was derived from similar questions on the 1986-1988 SMS core surveys. Total patient visits per week from 1983 to 1985 is based on responses to the following question:

During [your last complete week of practice], how many . . .

a. Patients did you personally see in the office, including outpatient surgery performed in the office?

b. Operations, deliveries, and assists did you perform in the hospital?

c. Inpatient visits did you make on hospital rounds? Please count as one visit every time you saw a patient.

d. Patients did you see in the emergency room and in outpatient clinics?

e. Patients did you see on house calls or in nursing homes, convalescent homes, or extended care facilities?

Physicians in psychiatry, radiology, anesthesiology, and pathology were not asked either series of questions and are, therefore, not reflected in the data for 1983 to 1990 in Tables 21–23.

Office Visits and Visits on Hospital Rounds per Week (Tables 24–29)

Office visits and visits on hospital rounds per week in 1989 and 1990 are based on responses to questions 9 and 14 respectively in the 1989 and 1990 SMS core surveys. Office visits and visits on hospital rounds per week for 1986-1988 were obtained from similar questions on the 1986-1988 SMS core surveys. Office visits and visits on hospital rounds per week in the years 1983 to 1985 were based on responses to the question:

During [your last complete week of practice], how many. . .

a. Patients did you personally see in the office, including outpatient surgery performed in the office?

b. Inpatient visits did you make on hospital rounds? Please count as one visit every time you saw a patient.

Physicians in psychiatry, radiology, anesthesiology, and pathology were not asked either set of questions and are, therefore, not reflected in the data in Tables 24–29.

Surgical Procedures per Week (Tables 30–32)

Surgical procedures per week in 1989 and 1990 is based on responses to questions 12 and 13 in the 1989 and 1990 SMS core surveys. The identical questions were used on the 1986-1988 SMS core surveys to obtain surgical procedures per week in 1986, 1987, 1988. Surgical procedures per week in 1983 to 1985 were based on responses to the question: "During [your last complete week of practice], how many operations, deliveries, and assists did you perform in the hospital?" Physicians in psychiatry, radiology, anesthesiology, and pathology were not asked either set of questions and are, therefore, not reflected in the data reported in Table 30–32.

Hospital Utilization (Tables 33–38)

Data on patients discharged from the hospital per week and the length of stay of patients discharged in the years 1983 to 1990 are based on responses to questions 17 and 18 on the respective SMS core surveys. Physicians in radiology, anesthesiology, and pathology were not asked questions 17 and 18 and are, therefore, not reflected in the data in Tables 33–38.

Fees (Tables 39–47)

Fees for office visits with new patients, office visits with established patients, and follow-up hospital visits between 1983 and 1990 were obtained in the SMS core surveys from responses to questions 16a, 16b, and 16c respectively. Physicians in psychiatry, radiology, anesthesiology, and pathology were not asked question 16 and are, therefore, not reflected

in the data in Tables 39–47. In the 1983 and 1984 editions, the fee reported by each physician was weighted by the frequency with which the physician had each type of visit in computing average fees. This weighted average method was not used in the 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, or 1990/1991 editions. In 1985 and 1986, the mean physician fee was computed as the simple average of responses. In the 1987, 1988, 1989, and 1990/1991 editions, the mean physician fee was computed as a simple average of responses weighted for survey nonresponse (see Appendix B). The mean fees reported for all years in Tables 41, 44, and 47 have also been computed in the latter fashion so as to provide consistency among the information reported.

Professional Expenses (Tables 48–56)

Professional expense information reported in Tables 48–56 refers to tax-deductible professional expenses from medical practice. Data on total professional expenses for 1989 are obtained either as the sum of the responses to parts a-e of question 21 in the 1990 SMS core survey or, in the event any of these responses is missing, as the response to the question, "In 1989, what were your total tax-deductible professional expenses from medical practice to the nearest $1,000? Do not include contributions made for you into deferred compensation plans." Data on professional expenses for 1982 to 1988 in Tables 49, 51, and 52–56 are based on responses to similar questions from the 1983 to 1989 SMS core surveys. The 1987 SMS survey, however, also asked a separate question on 1986 physician payroll expenses. This question was not asked on any other surveys. On other surveys, physician payroll expenses are included in the "Other Expenses" category. Data relating to professional expenses from the SMS surveys are based only on self-employed physicians.

Net Income after Expenses before Taxes (Tables 57–64)

Physician net income is defined to include all earnings from medical practice after expenses but before taxes, including fringe benefits and contributions made into deferred compensation plans. Net income in 1989 was determined in the 1990 SMS core survey from responses to question 23.

In addition, question 24 was included as a probe to ensure that deferred compensation plan contributions were fully represented in net income. If the physician responded "no" to question 24b, the response given to question 24a was added to the response to question 24 to obtain net income. Similar questions in the 1983 to 1989 SMS core surveys were used to obtain information on net income for 1982 to 1988, respectively.

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